# Daily Report

# Central Eurasia

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*FBIS-SOV-92-148* *31 July 1992*

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### Russian Official Remarks on U.S. MIA's

IZVESTIYA carries an article by Dmitriy Volkogonov, chairman of the Russian side of the Russian-U.S. MIA Commission. From new documents found recently by State Security Ministry personnel, it is reported that during and after WWII "a sizable group of U.S. citizens" ended up on Soviet territory; "among them were 39 people who held U.S. passports or were born in the United States but were of Ukrainian, Byelarusian, Lithuanian, Russian, or other extraction." According to the documents, "most of those who agreed" "to give up their U.S. citizenship" entered into camps and were "jailed as Soviet citizens. There is reason to think that some of them are still alive and living on the territory of the former USSR at present", noted Volkogonov in his article.

### Russian Armed Forces General Staff on Kurils

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA publishes the "full text" of the conclusion drawn by the Russian Armed Forces General Staff on the Kuril Islands issue, distributed at the recent Supreme Soviet hearings on the issue. The General Staff document noted the "military-strategic importance of the Kuril Islands" and mentioned the doubt that might be cast on the "firmness of one of the main principles of Russian foreign policy—the inviolability of the postwar borders"—if any Russian territorial concessions were to be made. According to the General Staff conclusion, any concessions to the Japanese might engender "new and even larger territorial claims against Russia."

### Estonia Apologizes for Installation Attack

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA reports that E. Liimets, Estonian deputy foreign minister, telephoned O. Popovich, Russia's interim charge d'affaires in Estonia, at Estonian "Prime Minister Tiit Vahi's request and said that the Estonian defense forces' actions in seizing the military installations have been deemed to be mistaken and that the Estonian Government expresses its regret in this connection." A government commission was set up to investigate the 27 July incident.

Russian TV reports that Russia protested attacks in Estonia on Russian servicemen. Russian Defense Minister Grachev "issued instructions to shoot to kill if there is a repeat attack on Russian servicemen."

### New Armenian Prime Minister Appointed

Yerevan Radio reports that Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan issued a decree relieving "Vice President Gagik Garushovich Arutyunyan from his duties as prime minister, head of the government." ITAR-TASS reports that Ter-Petrosyan appointed Khosrov Arutyunyan as the new prime minister on 30 July.

### Latvia Bans 'Radical Opinions' Near Government Sites

Riga Radio reports that on 29 July the Latvian Government banned the expression of "communist or other radical opinions" near the entrances to government and parliament buildings. The government decision also forbids local governments from authorizing "meetings and pickets...within 100 meters of the Supreme Council, Council of Ministers, or Supreme Court."

## Weapons Trade, Discarded Submarines Noted

*OW3107005992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1817 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[From the "Trade & Investment" feature: "Trade in Weapons"; transmitted via KYODO]

### [Text] Russia To License Weapons Components Exports to Other CIS Countries

Russian defence enterprises now have to obtain a license if they want to supply components used in arms production to the rest of the Commonwealth. Similarly, licensing will now apply to purchases of weapons components coming the other way under existing production cooperation arrangements and contracts. These requirements are set in the government's ruling dated as of July 24, which is designed to stem supplies of weapons to crisis areas in the Commonwealth and ensure that Russia honor its international commitments related to the nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

Licenses for exports of arms components will be granted to defence enterprises by Russia's Ministry for External Economic Ties. Applications should be made using standard application forms. Applicants are held responsible for providing truthful information to substantiate their applications for licenses.

### Russian Government Allows Sale of Licensing for Production of Ammunition

The Russian government has permitted the state scientific manufacturing firm Bazalt (part of the defense complex) to sell foreign customers "know-how" and licenses for the production of ammunition.

The government resolution signed by Vice Prime Minister Georgiy Khizha gives firms the right to sell ammunition produced by them to foreign customers beginning this year through the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations. The government also permitted Bazalt to develop new types of ammunition for government orders and foreign clients, considering the interests of the ministry, and to hold consultations for foreign specialists and show samples of ammunition.

### Russia To Use Discarded Military Ships

The Russian government will accelerate the utilization of military ships and submarines, mainly nuclear, removed from the navy, and turn them over for experienced technological dismantling by shipbuilding and repair plants in the republic.

The Russian State Committee on Government Property (Goskomimuschestvo) was ordered to transfer the written-off ships and submarines to the republic's firms which will conduct the dismantling without government funding.

The firms will use new environmentally clean methods of dismantling and drawing byproducts from the refinement of titanium alloys and other metals. The firms will also call in commercial firms and foreign investors for the project.

The scrap and products received from the dismantling of the ships and submarines can be sold by quotas or licensing set by the Ministry of Industry and the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations. Those products which may not be exported according to Russian law are excluded.

The firms involved in dismantling the ships are exempt from import-export duties. All hard currency profits remaining after the firm has sold the mandatory 50% at market price, will be transferred to a special account in the Russian Finance Ministry and will be used to import equipment for the firms.

The government will also grant shipbuilding and repair firms involved in the project, special tax breaks on profits from the sale of products received from dismantling of the first submarines and ships (one unit per factory).

List of ships and submarines removed from the navy to be dismantled by shipbuilding and repair factories.

| Firm | type of vessel | quantity |
|---|---|---|
| Northern Machine Building | nuclear submarine | 3 |
| Plant | | |
| Sever Manufacturing | long range nuclear submarine | 4 |
| Amalgamation | | |
| Zvezda Shipbuilding Plant | long range nuclear submarine | 4 |
| (Far East) | | |
| Shipbuilding plant (Khabarovsk) | anti-submarine ship | 1 |
| Yantar—Baltic shipbuilding | guided missile ship | 1 |
| plant | | |
| "Nerpa" ship repair plant | nuclear submarine | 2 |

## Conventional, Defensive Missiles To Be Cut

*LD3107055292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0542 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[Text] Moscow, July 31 (TASS)—Russia can reduce its strategic offensive armaments to 3 - 3.5 thousand charges, as envisaged by an agreement between the presidents of Russia and the United States, but several conditions are to observed, according to a Russian military expert.

While reducing the strategic arms it is necessary to adequately cut non-nuclear weapons capable of neutralising the strategic systems. ABM systems are to be banned completely, Yevgeniy Volkov told the military KRASNAYA ZVEZDA newspaper on Friday [31 July].

Tc calculate how many strategic weapons are necessary to deter a potential aggressor it is necessary to proceed from the notion that the development of means of nuclear warfare should be aimed at increasing their survival level. "A suddeen attack can eliminate up to 75 per cent of the weapons", according to Volkov.

While determining the level of strategic disarmament, the arsenal of the commonwealth should be compared to that of the NATO, not only of the United States, the expert said.

### Official on Future Role of ABM Treaty

*OW3107140492 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1331 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Russian foreign ministry believes that the ABM treaty can become an integral part of the global anti-missile defences the idea of which is now under discussion by Russian and US experts, the deputy in charge of the ministry's department for control over military technologies, Sergey Chuvakhin, told DP [Diplomatic Panorama] commenting on the recent meeting in Washington by Russian and American experts within the framework of the International Security Council.

He said some of the assertions made there that the ABM treaty should be reviewed on the grounds of being an obstacle to the implementation of the global anti-missile defences were inconsistent.

The Russian diplomat said the global project was in essence a new collective security system, and its multi-national character, and hence its openness to other countries was one of its fundamental principles. The Russian side believes that in the view of the strategic balance of forces worldwide, the ABM treaty must be kept intact while working on the basic concepts of the global anti-missile defences.

The new project's priority element must include a well-defined system of objective assessment of what is a real threat and possible counter-measures in each separate case.

In other words, the extent of threat must be defined and classified first before any coherent steps are taken to remove it. The diplomat said the Russian and American sides shared understanding on that issue recognising the need for the creation of an international missile attack warning centre.

Chuvakhin said the package of diplomatic and political measures for averting possible missile strikes had not exhausted itself yet although recognising that "there may be the need for the creation of certain types of anti-missile defences in future".

### Nuclear Deterrence Conference Opens in Moscow

*LD3007180792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1238 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Novikov]

[Text] Moscow July 30 TASS—A conference "Nuclear Deterrence After Cold War" opened in the building of the Russian Parliament in Moscow on Thursday [30 July].

Addressing the conference, First Deputy Russian Defence Minister, Andrey Kokoshin, said that the problem of ensuring reliable nuclear deterrence and prevention of another world war is one of the main elements of Russia's military doctrine.

Kokoshin said that nuclear deterrence is playing an important role in the policy of the United States of America and other nuclear powers.

"Therefore it is important to thoroughly discuss the problem to determine a new system of coordinates of nuclear deterrence and also to reveal the multi-measured situation which has emerged in the world and which greatly differs in its complexity from the recent past," Kokoshin pointed out.

He noted that although the Cold War is over, the problem of security still remains. It depends on the balance of forces, he said.

The participants in the conference will discuss a wide range of questions connected with the problem of nuclear deterrence, the role it plays in the constantly changing international, military and political situation, and also problems of cooperation with the United States in the field of "global protection" including anti-missile defence. The results of the discussions will be summed up by the Parliamentary Committee for International Affairs and Foreign Economic Relations and submitted to Parliament.

Does the threat of nuclear aggression from the United States remain? The Russian parliamentarians do not have a unanimous answer to the question, Yevgeniy Ambartsumov, chairman of the Russian Parliamentary Committee for International Affairs and Foreign Economic Relations, said commenting on the problem.

He paid attention to the fact that some of his colleagues, the participants of a recent discussion on the Kuril Islands, expressed the opinion that "the United States in alliance with Japan remains our main adversary. This is where the alleged threat comes from, from those whom we are hastily calling allies, Ambartsumov said quoting these parliamentarians as saying.

When asked whether Russia and the United States could become strategic partners, the participants noted that life itself compels the two nuclear powers to make this step.

Proceeding from this position, parliamentarians, scientists and experts are to analyse the role of nuclear deterrence in the international military and political situation, and, in particular, the agreements reached between the Russian and American presidents on reduction of strategic offensive weapons.

### Experts Meet To Discuss Future CIS Charter

*LD2807163392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1618 GMT 28 Jul 92*

[By BELINFORM correspondent Larisa Lazar for TASS]

[Text] Minsk July 28 TASS—CIS experts met in the Byelarusian capital of Minsk on Tuesday [28 July] to work out principles of a future charter of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

The charter will determine the rights and duties of CIS member-states. The first draft was rejected by the leaders of CIS states during their recent meeting in Moscow.

The current meeting is being attended by representatives of Armenia, Byelarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Ukraine.

The experts are expected to develop the draft charter within two months. After which it will be submitted to a CIS summit to be held in Bishkek on September 25.

### Russia To Get Majority of Overseas Property

*OW3007133792 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1252 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[From "Diplomatic Panorama"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] According to information available to DP [Diplomatic Panorama], experts from CIS countries have agreed on the ratio of dividing the former USSR property abroad. Russia will get the biggest share, 61%. Ukraine will get 16% and Byelarus 4%. The remaining formerly Soviet republics, with the exclusion of the Baltic states which did not join the CIS, will get from 1 to 3% of the former USSR property abroad.

According to a prominent member of Russia's Foreign Ministry interviewed by DP's correspondent, this agreement was reached on the basis of ratios worked out by experts from CIS countries when defining the share of each formerly Soviet republic in the common debt of the former USSR. "The percentages determined for each republic have been extrapolated on the situation concerning the former USSR property abroad".

According to the diplomat, there are different scenarios for dividing the former USSR property abroad in concrete terms. For instance, Russia's Foreign Ministry has no objection to letting diplomats from one CIS country or another work in Russia's embassies in foreign countries. "Such practice already exists", the Russian diplomat said.

Another scenario provides for the possibility of Russia's representing the interests of one CIS partner or another in a foreign country.

Besides, Russia could "compensate" the share of one or another CIS partner in the country where the given partner is not interested in maintaining its diplomatic mission. Such compensation could be expressed in paying that partner's share in the common debt of the former USSR.

Russian experts also have other suggestions to be coordinated with their CIS partners.

### Draft on Rights of Deported Persons Prepared

*LD3007123892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1710 GMT 29 Jul 92*

[By BELINFORM—TASS correspondent Larisa Lazar]

[Text] Minsk July 29 TASS—The Minsk headquarters of the Working Group of Councils of the Commonwealth heads of state and heads of government accomplished its work on the preparation of a draft agreement envisaging the restoration of the rights of deported persons, national minorities and peoples. The document was signed by representatives plenipotentiary of Armenia, Byelarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Ukraine.

Now the last word is for heads of state who will have a regular meeting on September 25, 1992 in Bishkek. According to a draft, it is envisaged to unite efforts of the Commonwealth states in resolving problems of the persons who suffered because of deportation, including giving guarantees to pensioners, aid and preferential taxation over the period of job-finding and moving to areas from which they were deported.

### Navy Allocating Funding for Accommodations

*PM3007140992 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 Jul 92 p 1*

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Roman Zadunayskiy: "Apartments for Officers and Warrant Officers"]

[Text] Moscow, 27 Jul—The Navy is not unaffected by one of the Armed Forces' problem areas—construction of housing for servicemen. In the Navy as a whole, there are currently more than 23,000 commissioned officers and warrant officers without accommodations. In order to ease the housing problem, the Navy command is taking steps to find funds to build its own housing for naval personnel.

According to CIS Navy Press Service data, the Navy plans to build 6,126 apartments in 1992 and provide 546 places in hostels with a total area of around 350,000 square meters. The first five months of this year saw the provision of 516 apartments and 186 places in hostels.

Capital investments in housing contruction constitute 65 percent of the Navy's overall financial budget.

### Gromov on Upcoming Yeltsin-Kravchuk Talks

*LD3107103992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0953 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[By ITAR-TASS military writer Andrey Naryshkin]

[Text] Moscow July 31 TASS—The Russian and Ukrainian presidents, Boris Yeltsin and Leonid Kravchuk, will decide on the principles of creating two separate fleets in the Black Sea at their meeting in Yalta on Monday [3 August], according to deputy commander of the CIS Navy Feliks Gromov.

The CIS Navy leadership wanted to keep a single command system of the Black Sea Fleet, however, Ukraine disagreed and the talks were in a deadlock, he told TASS on Friday.

The two presidents then decided to create two national operational and strategic fleets in the Black Sea, Gromov added.

The CIS Navy believes two equally large fleets should sail the Black Sea, taking into consideration Russia's contribution to the creation of the Black Sea Fleet and its main naval base in Sevastopol, the admiral said, but added Ukraine does not agree with the idea.

Gromov welcomed the proposal of the coordinatinmg council of officers' assemblies of the Black Sea Fleet that the two national flotillas should have a single operational command and that the exploitation of naval bases be coordinated. It is important to proceed from the tasks the fleets will be entrusted with, the admiral stressed.

The Soviet Black Sea Fleet was engaged in defence on the southern direction and closely coordinated its actions with the Northern and the Baltic Fleets. Such a possibility should remain in future, as Russia is both a party to the CIS collective security treaty and its guarantor, Gromov said.

Ukraine, which has proclaimed the status of a nuclear-free, neutral state which does not belong to any military bloc, bears no responsibility for the security of its neighbours. Consequently, its fleet is to have limited possibilities allowing it to ensure coast guard control, maintain operational regime in the Black Sea, etc, according to Gromov. These reasons are to be taken into account while sharing the fleet between the two countries, according to the admiral.

### TV, Radio Broadcasting Conference Held

*LD2907225192 Kiev Ukrayinske Telebachennya Television Network in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 29 Jul 92*

[Text] A conference of leaders of CIS countries' national television and radio broadcasting companies has taken place over two days in Moscow. As is known, its main aim is the preparation of documents to create an interstate television and radio broadcasting organization. Discussion of this idea of the present Ostankino president, Yegor Yakovlev, took place behind closed doors. Conclusions can be drawn from a short interview to an Ostankino correspondent, given by Yarema Fridrak, first vice president of Ukraine's Television and Radio Broadcasting Company.

If Ukraine refuses to finance Ostankino, it will not receive programs from Moscow, which, of course, will cause additional discontent among significant numbers of the population in our state.

The objective was reached in the first stage. What happened in reality? Ukraine, as before, will receive programs from Ostankino, paying 2 billion rubles [R] per annum.

Another two fairly essential details which for some reason, my Moscow colleagues forgot to report: For the creation of an interstate television and radio broadcasting company, Ukraine has to set aside R1 billion per annum. How much Russia has to set aside is not known. It is known, for instance, that Kazakhstan will put in close to R300 million. Envisaging also, for sure, that national companies can put in a claim to their own part of Ostankino, correspondents' posts abroad have already been divided with the Russian company.

Taking all these aspects into account, it was decided not to take part in the creation of a new organization, but to limit oneself only to the signing of a bilateral agreement, which in the end, caused the displeasure of President Yegor Yakovlev and his company.

### Formation of Company Viewed

*LD3007204792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1835 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Veronika Romanenkova]

[Text] Moscow July 30 TASS—The call signals of the Interstate Television and Radio Broadcasting Company will soon go on the air. Its creation is favoured by representatives of Azerbaijan, Armenia, Byelarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Ukraine.

The final decision will be taken at a meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the CIS to be held in Bishkek late in September.

The interstate company will be a joint stock company of a closed type. It will be managed by the coordination council on "one man—one vote" principle and by the board of directors where the number of votes of each member will depend on the number of shares owned by the state he or she represents. The dues will be proportionate to the number of the population.

The company will circulate its information through "Ostankino" TV and radio channels. At the initial stage, the company will be financed by the founder countries. It is expected to become self-paying later.

## ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 31 Jul

*LD3107051892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0434 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[Text] Moscow July 31 (TASS)—Newspapers highlight today the reaction of the population of the Dniester region to the arrival of the peace-keeping force.

The disengagement troops consisting of the Russian, Moldovan and Dniester battalions are arriving in accordance with the agreement "on a peaceful settlement of the conflict in the Dniester region of the Republic of Moldova," which finaly came into force on July 27, NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA writes. "This is why the first disengagement units that came from Russia on July 29 were welcomed with bunches of flowers and jugs of delicious Moldovan wine", the newspaper points out. At the same time, KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA reports the activisation of the still unknown "third force" in the Dniester region over the past several days. According to the newspaper, "they fire from mortars, grenade launchers and all types of small arms at the positions of both sides, usually at night". N. Kirotake, adviser to the Moldovan President on military issues, believes the activity of the "third force" will steadily grow, because its objective is to "disrupt efforts, aimed at establishing peace in the eastern part of the Republic." KRASNAYA ZVEZDA also covers the developments in that region.

Newspapers carry materials about the situation in other hotbeds of tension, specifically, about Georgia's preparations for guarding the frontier by its own efforts, the continuing fighting in Nagorno-Karabakh, the adoption by the Azeri Government of a resolution on the protection of social rights of foreign citizens undergoing military service on the territory of that country. In accordance with the resolution, houses and flats of servicemen (irrespective of what institution they belong to) will be turned over to them free of charge to become their property.

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA and NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA write about the recent armed attack of Estonian soldiers on the transport depot of the baltic fleet in Tallinn, as a result of which two Russian citizens were wounded. The newspapers cite the note of the Estonian Foreign Ministry, which described the incident as "another evidence of the desire to destabilise the situation in Estonia". However, the statistics published by the newspapers make it clear whose initiative it is. Some 20 attackes on Russian servicemen were staged in Tallinn between February 1 and today, and it is only Russians that were wounded.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA frontpages an article rendering Yeltsin's report at the session of the constitutional commission of the Russian Parliament, held in the Kremlin last Wednesday. The article is entitled "president takes drafting of constitution into his own hands. Referendum is possible". The newspaper quotes the president as saying that he will work at the commission as much as it is needed for drafting and approving a new constitution. In his opinion, the constitution should ban unambiguously the activities of organisations and groups advocating social and national hostility and hatred.

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA carries an interview with Leonid Shebarshin, former head of the Soviet intelligence service. In his opinion, we have lost the "cold war". "Intelligence activities or the 'secret war', as you may call it, was a component part of the 'cold war' for several decades. Our side has lost that war. I hope we shall be able to draw some lessons from the defeat," Shebarshin said. At the same time, he believes "both sides are to blame for that war".

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA writes about the inevitable resignation of Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev. In its opinion, this follows from the fact that "it is Deputy Prime Minister Mikhail Poltoranin who will go to Tokyo to prepare the president's visit. This repudiation of the incumbent head of the Foreign Ministry is becoming scandalous", the newspaper writes. It comes to the conclusion that "Kozyrev's resignation will mean the victory of the tough course (and, consequently, Yeltsin's forced drift in that direction)".

Newspapers give wide coverage to the "unvoluntary" return to Germany of former GDR leader Erich Honecker. They point out that he was brought to the same prison where he was kept during the Nazi regime.

## Weekly 'Trade & Investment' Headline News

*OW3107043192*

[Editorial Report] Moscow INTERFAX in English, received via Tokyo KYODO at 1812 GMT on 30 July, transmits its 31 July "Trade & Investment" feature. Within the "Headline News" section of the weekly feature INTERFAX carries 10 reports, the highlights of which include the following:

In a 130-word report headlined "Yeltsin Says Russia Needs New Strategy on World Grain Market," INTERFAX cites President Yeltsin during his visit to the Omsk Region on "Friday" as saying Russia may review the composition and sources of its grain imports next year. The report says that the "essence of Russia's new grain import strategy is that up to 30 percent of imports should be accounted for by high-nutrient feeds, primarily soya bean cake and feed mixtures." Yeltsin is quoted as saying that "it makes sense" to consider buying fodder in the European grain market because the EC has "grain surpluses." As for Russia's traditional suppliers—Canada and the U.S.—INTERFAX cites Yeltsin as saying that links with these countries took shape many years ago "on terms that were not the best as far as Russia was concerned." The report adds that the cost of imports from North America is very high because of transportation expenses, but that Yeltsin said that he was not calling to "cut links with America."

A 90-word report states that Byelarusian firms must have licenses from the State Labor Committee (Goskomtrud) to recruit and hire citizens to work abroad. Goskomtrud "leading economist" Vladimir Belozor is reported as saying there are currently 12,000 Byelarusians unofficially working outside the republic, with the number expected to reach up to 20,000 by 1993.

INTERFAX reports that the "experiment" by the Russian Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations (MFER) to auction certificates for the right to export crude oil to India and Bulgaria was unsuccessful. The 220-word report cites Yuriy Bondarenko, vice president of the Moscow Oil Exchange, as saying that when the organizations which bought the certificates went to the MFER to receive their oil export licenses, "they found out that they did not have the right to sell the oil freely in those countries and could only make barter deals. In addition to this, the barter deals could only be concluded with a specific list of goods." In Bulgaria, for example, the list of barter goods was mostly vegetable products. According to Interfax, the MFER is planning to auction certificates to export 2 million tons of crude oil.

An 80-word report says that the government Committee on Underground Resources of the "Sakha Republic (Yakutia)" announced the third competition this month for the rights to develop "six gold fields and one semi-precious gem field." Among the gold fields are: the Taborniy field (in the Olekninsk region), Glukhoye and Rogatoye (Vernekalymsk region), Sanga-Sen (Abyshsk region), Lazo (Verkhoyansk region), and Burgovchan (Tampov region).

The following INTERFAX-supplied chart provides details of Russian government approved "Maximum Rates of Commission Charges in Intermediation Transactions Related to the Export of Strategically Important Raw Materials (Based on the Contract Value of Goods)".

**Name Of Commodity, Foreign Trade Classification Code And Maximum Commission Rate In Percent**

| Name | Code | % |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Crude oil, including gas condensate | (2709) | 0.8 |
| 2. Petroleum products, oils and other products of high-temperature processing | (2707, 2710) | 1.0 |
| 3. Natural gas, oil gas and other hydrocarbons | (2711) | 1.0 |
| 4. Electricity | (2716) | 2.0 |
| 5. Coking coal, including coal mixtures, coke and semi-coke | (2701-2704) | 2.0 |
| 6. Timber, lumber, pulp, paperboard | (4401-4421, 4701-4706, 4801-4823) | 1.5 |
| 7. Non-ferrous metals, raw materials for production thereof; rare and rare-earth metals, including scrap and waste, alloys, powder, semi-manufactured products, rolled products | (2603-2604, 2606-2609, 2611, 2613, 2614,261590100, 2805, 7113, 7401-8113) | 2.0 |
| 8. Pig iron, rolled iron and steel products, including billets for rolling, steel pipes, ferro-alloys, scrap and waste | (7201-7229, 7301-7307) | 2.0 |
| 9. Mineral fertilizers, ammonia, methanol | (2814, 290511, 3102-3105) | 1.5 |
| 10. Inorganic acids | (2806-2811) | 1.5 |
| 11. Furs | (4301, 4302) | 1.5 |
| 12. Grain | (1001-1008) | 1.5 |
| 13. Oil-crop seed cakes | (1208) | 1.5 |

A 250-word report on the Russian government buying 1 million tons of grain in the past week cites Aleksandr Kudelya, first deputy chairman of the Committee for Bread Products, saying that the amount of grain thus far purchased by the government is only one-fifth of that bought on the same date a year ago. Mr. Kudelya said farmers began to sell grain more actively after President Yeltsin said during last week's trip to the Krasnodar Region that the current base procurement prices for grain would not be raised.

According to a 160-word report, "Experts from some of Russia's exchanges which trade in grain (Moscow Commodity Exchange, Russian Commodity and Raw Materials Exchange, International Food Exchange, and Saratov Grain Exchange) have drawn up a standard form of contract for grain, jointly with their American colleagues." The report says the standard contract "will be presented to the U.S. Trade Department and—if approved—will be used to sell U.S. grain at Russian exchanges." INTERFAX says the matter will be discussed "during the U.S. experts' next visit to Moscow in September," and that Russia's "unfilled demand for grain is up to 40 million tons, whereas imports by the government do not exceed 20 million tons a year."

INTERFAX says in a 210-word report that the Russian government will continue talks with Iran for interest free, untied credit to the value of $400 million, payable

within a period of 12-18 months. This credit is intended for "clearing accounts with Russian factories that produced specialized equipment for Iran in 1991," and for freight and insurance charges.

Lastly, in a 250-word report on the Central Bank of the Russian Federation permitting the country's "authorized banks" to sell foreign exchange to individuals for rubles, INTERFAX reports that the amount of foreign exchange that may be sold is not limited, and buyers are not required to have an exit visa or a special passport for travel abroad. Residents of the Russian Federation going abroad on private business or who permanently leave Russia "may now take $500 worth of foreign exchange out of the country without presenting an appropriate permission by an authorized bank, and more than $500 if they have such a permission." An individual may buy more than $500 worth of foreign exchange from an authorized bank if he or she presents a passport or some other document specifying his identity. The report says that "observers believe that this step by the Central Bank is a move towards the internal convertibility of the ruble."

### Forecasts for Grain Harvests Published

*LD3007122192 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1100 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Text] Forecasts for the grain harvest have been published in the CIS countries. In a number of Commonwealth states, say Byelarus, their harvest will be much worse than last year because of a drought. In Russia, between 96 to 98 million tonnes of grain will be harvested. This is roughly as much as last year. Kazakhstan expects a good harvest in general. It's the only Commonwealth country that will be able to export grain. Neighboring Uzbekistan will increase grain output as the area sown to wheat there has been expanded, but even in this case the Central Asian country will be able to meet only one-fourth of its wheat requirements, experts believe. Uzbekistan has already bought large quantities of grain in Turkey.

### Commission's Volkogonov on U.S. POW's

*PM3107122192 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 31 Jul 92 Morning Edition pp 1,5*

[Article by Dmitriy Volkogonov, chairman of the Russian section of the Russian-U.S. MIA commission: "Quest for U.S. Citizens on Territory of Former USSR: Sensations Possible"—last paragraph is editorial note]

[Text] The Russian-U.S. commission investigating the fate of U.S. citizens who went missing both during and after World War II has extracted new documents from the depths of what were until recently most secret archives. Those found by Russian State Security Ministry personnel in their own archives are of particular interest.

It turns out that during and after World War II a sizable group of U.S. citizens ended up on the territory of the former USSR as a result of combat operations, changes in borders, repatriation of internees, and other clashes brought about by the war. Among them were 39 people who held U.S. passports or were born in the United States but were of Ukrainian, Byelarusian, Lithuanian, Russian, or other extraction.

You can see from the documents that the relevant organs worked with these people and tried to induce them to give up their U.S. citizenship. Those who refused to sign such statements immediately received 15-25 years in the camps for "espionage." Most of those who agreed also shared their fate, but they entered the camps and jails as Soviet citizens. There is reason to think that some of them are still alive and living on the territory of the former USSR at present.

The commission is now working to find them in order to set to rights the wrong perpetrated against them and enable them to contact their relatives now living in the United States. There are difficulties involved in this work due to the fact that these events happened long ago and due to the possibility of their living in the sovereign states formed on the territory of the former USSR.

IZVESTIYA will publish a list of this category of citizens for whom a search is under way in forthcoming issues.

### Ministry Protests 'Hijacking' of Fleet Boat

*OW3007160992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1539 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russia's Foreign Ministry yesterday sent a note to Ukraine's Foreign Ministry protesting the hijacking of a Black Sea Fleet patrol boat to Odessa on July 21.

The note says that Ukrainian high-ranking military officials refused to cooperate with the Black Sea Fleet Command to immediately resolve the dispute. This, Russia's Foreign Ministry says, destabilizes the whole situation in the Black Sea Fleet and aggravates Russian-Ukrainian relations. Moscow believes that the returning of the ship and thorough investigation of the incident would be in accord with Russian and Ukrainian interests.

### Estonian Attacks Prompt 'Shoot To Kill' Order

*LD3107111492 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1000 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Another two attacks have been carried out on Russian servicemen in Estonia. The Russian side has issued a resolute protest against these provocations.

Grachev, Russia's defense minister, has issued instructions to shoot to kill if there is a repeat attack on Russian servicemen.

### Guards To Stop Protecting Estonian Border

*LD3107085792 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0800 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[Text] By 1 August, Russian border guards will stop protecting Estonian borders, the ANI news agency reports. According to the agency, this agreement was reached by experts during Estonian-Russian talks. The groups have the task of transferring border installations to Estonian jurisdiction. A timetable and scale for the transfer are to be determined by a special bilateral document.

### Report: Troops Stationed on Disputed Islands

*OW3107012292 Tokyo KYODO in English 0048 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[Text] Moscow, July 30 KYODO—The Russian military's General Staff Office has revealed for the first time that most of its troops in the Kuril Islands are based on four islands which Japan claims, according to a general staff report obtained by KYODO NEWS SERVICE on Thursday [30 July].

Besides troops, the report says, there are 10 border guard posts on the Kurils, which run north from the four Japanese-claimed islands to south of the Kamchatka Peninsula.

Russia controls the chain, including those Japan claims as its northern territories, Kunashiri, Etorofu, Shikotan and the Habomai islets just off Hokkaido.

The document warns that since there are about 7,000 Russian troops on the four disputed islands, a one-sided Russian troop withdrawal would seriously damage security in the Russian Far East.

The report reveals that there are about 430 Russian Navy personnel on the four isles under the supervision of the Pacific Ocean Fleet. It also says shore-to-ship missiles are deployed on Etorofu Island in the northern territories.

Earlier in the week the General Staff Office submitted a request to the Supreme Soviet calling for a freeze on

proposed troop reductions on the disputed islands. The Russians have cut its [as received] forces there from 10,000 troops to about 7,000.

Russian President Boris Yeltsin proposed demilitarizing the disputed islands as the third stage of his five-stage plan for settling the territorial dispute between Japan and Russia.

Yeltsin has already presented his plan to withdraw all troops from the disputed isles within a year or two.

### Independent Survey Views Yeltsin's Japan Visit

*OW3007172292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1635 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Report by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovsky, and Vladimir Shishlin from "Presidential Bulletin"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Although the first deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet, Sergey Filatov, has promised that the minutes of the closed parliamentary discussion on Russian-Japanese relations would be published, there are still plenty of rumors and conjectures as to the program for Boris Yeltsin's visit to Japan scheduled for this autumn. For example, a survey of the Russian-Japanese dispute over the Kuril Islands is being circulated in Moscow whose authorship is attributed to a group of independent experts.

The international community, above all the developed industrialized countries, are closely following Russia's policy towards Japan, which is reflected in G-7's Munich declaration, the survey stresses. In effect Russia's position is seen as the last touchstone for its true intentions in foreign policy in general. Russia's rigid stance inherited from the former Soviet administration undoubtedly prevents Russian-Japanese relations from being normalized.

The postponement of Yeltsin's visit or a visit bringing no results could have grave political and psychological consequences for Russia, the survey goes on. Apart from causing natural disappointment on the part of the G-7 and provoking strong retaliatory measures on the part of Japan, Russia would have serious problems trying to explain why the visit had been had put off, or, if it did take place, why no solution had been found to the problem.

The use of old arguments like "there is no such problem," which even the Gorbachev administration avoided, would be the worst thing to do - this would be a style typical of the Brezhnev administration.

However, by sticking to the principle of justice and embarking on redemarcation, Russia would radically cahnge its relationship with Japan and win extensive support from the West, the survey concludes.

### Moscow Signs Trade Agreement With Lithuania

*LD3107133392 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0300 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[Text] The Moscow mayor's office signed a trade and economic agreement with Lithuania for 1992 on 30 July. The document establishes a most-favored status for contracts between the two parties for deliveries of goods. Accounts will be settled in rubles at prearranged prices. The parties also agreed to cooperate in setting up joint ventures and investing in joint programs and projects.

### Meeting Proposed Over Baltic Troop Withdrawal

*LD3007200392 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1000 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Lithuania has stated that Russia is seeking to convene a meeting with all foreign ministers of the Baltic states to search for a possible compromise over the timetable of the withdrawal of Russian troops.

A representative of the Russian Foreign Ministry has stated that Russia would also like the meeting to discuss the problems of discrimination against Russians in the Baltic region. Russia has proposed that this meeting be held in Moscow on 6 August.

### Democratic Party Concerned About Ethnic Conflict

*OW3107132592 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1259 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The political council of the Democratic Party of Russia (DPR) shares the concern of the Russian parliament and the public due to sharpening of inter-ethnic relations in the Baltic states, the statement of the DPR political council says. "We urge the Russian government to undertake resolute and effective measures including sanctions used in the international practice towards states violating the rights and freedoms of a man".

The statement stresses that the Baltic states "have occupied a political course aimed at forcing out the non-indigenious population and at national discrimination", "repeated armed provocations" are "organized against the Russian servicemen".

The political council of the DPR believes that "cultivating of enmity towards other peoples, encroaching upon the legal rights of a person and a citizen makes the Baltic states residents hostages of the political games of the nationalist leaders".

### Rutskoy Meets Spanish Officials During Visit

*LD3007194292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1926 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Text] Madrid July 30 TASS—King Juan Carlos I of Spain received Russian Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy, who is in Spain on an official visit, on Thursday [30 July]. Later in the day, Rutskoy met with Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez to discuss bilateral relations and prospects for their development. Gonzalez promised cooperation to carry out Russia's food programme.

### Rutskoy Comments on Reforms

*LD3007204992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1946 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Text] Madrid July 30 TASS—Russia has only one path to follow, the path of reforms, Russian Vice-President Aleksandr Rutskoy said at a news conference in Madrid, where he is on an official visit.

Rutskoy called for a new constitution and broader powers for Russian President Boris Yeltsin. He ruled out the possibility of a new coup in Russia while he and Yeltsin are in power.

Rutskoy said Russia will use Spain's rich experience of economic reforms and welcomed the Spanish Government's decision to actualise the treaty of friendship and cooperation between Spain and the Soviet Union. A new agreement will be signed during Yeltsin's upcoming visit to Spain.

Spanish Foreign Minister Javier Solana said Spain will facilitate the development of bilateral relations between the two states to stabilise the situation in Russia.

On Thursday [30 July], Rutskoy met with Spanish Minister of Agriculture Pedro Solbes and Minister of Industry Jose Claudio Aranzadi to discuss prospects for mutually beneficial ties between Spain and Russia. Rutskoy has ended the official part of his visit to Spain. On Friday he will go to Barcelona where he will meet with head of the local administration Jordi Pujol and president of the International Olympic Committee Juan Antonio Samaranch.

### Official Says Actions Toward Honecker Lawful

*LD3007113492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1126 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vasiliy Titov]

[Text] Moscow July 30 TASS—"Yesterday's transfer of Erich Honecker (to Germany) was absolutely tactful [as received]. Honecker decided to leave the Chilean Embassy on his own free will," a high-ranking Russian Foreign Ministry official told TASS on Thursday [30 July].

The position of the Russian Foreign Ministry on Honecker's case had a legal basis—the decision to the effect adopted by the Russian Government last November.

"All subsequent measures, including Honecker's transfer on Wednesday from the Chilean Embassy in Moscow to Berlin, were taken in keeping with this decision," the diplomat said.

He recalled that the decision on Honecker's extradition was adopted with the participation of the Russian Ministry of Justice.

Top officials of the ministry were instructed to bring the decision to Honecker's notice, which was done last December in the presence of representatives from the Foreign and the Interior Ministries, the diplomat said.

At all subsequent stages, the Russian Foreign Ministry acted in strict compliance with international norms, he pointed out.

The Russian Ministry of Justice was fully aware of the progress of talks on Honecker's fate, the diplomat added.

### Republic of Germans To Be Recreated

*LD2907155192 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 29 Jul 92*

[Text] The Russian Government intends to recreate the Republic of Germans in the Volga areas (?of) the traditional settlements of their ancestors without any harm to those who live there now. This is said in a statement released by the Russian Government today. All the Germans living on the territory of the former Soviet Republics are free to resettle in the republic being recreated. In line with an agreement between Russia and Germany the German Government will help the resettlers in housing construction and in business activity.

### Plane Sales to Iran Denied; Talks Possible

*MK3107073592 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 30 Jul 92 p 2*

[Pavel Felgengauer report under "In Brief" rubric: "Russia Not Selling Combat Aircraft"]

[Text] The Russian Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations Main Administration for Military-Technical Cooperation has officially denied a report in LE MONDE about additional deliveries to Iran of combat aircraft and other military equipment. A NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA correspondent was told that "the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations services know nothing about talks with Iran along the lines of military-technical cooperation." Iran has recently suspended payments under previous "military-technical" contracts (deliveries of MiG-29's and other equipment). In turn Russia is delaying payments for "civilian" deliveries. Talks on a reciprocal offsetting of payments (clearing) are now in progress, and until these talks end in mutual satisfaction new deliveries to Iran are quite simply impossible.

The Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations Main Administration for Military-Technical Cooperation is the only official authority in Russia which has the right to issue export licenses. Weapons (especially weapons worth $11 billion) will not be able to pass through customs without export licenses. However, it was carefully noted at the Main Administration for Military-Technical Cooperation that although "we are not holding any talks," somebody in Russia could nonetheless be holding such talks without informing the official authorities. "We are not always notified now," the NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA correspondent was told.

### Pakistan Denies Reports of Russian Arms Deal

*LD3007155892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0922 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksey Kuznetsov]

[Text] New Delhi July 30 TASS—An unnamed official of Pakistan's Ministry of External Affairs described reports appearing in the press on Wednesday [29 July] regarding the alleged purchases of a large consignment of Russian arms by Islamabad as "purely speculative".

Lately a number of Pakistani newspapers reported, quoting "reliable sources", that Islamabad is actively working on an agreement with Russia about acquiring Mig-29 fighter planes, Soviet Union-27 fighter-bombers, T-72 tanks and 130 mm. artillery guns. Pakistan's Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif is reported to have already guaranteed the military 400 million dollars for the deal. But the Delhi newspaper "DAILY NEWS" stated that the Pakistan's top political leadership is studying at once four proposals of arms supplies from "private Russian partners".

### Iraqi Developments, UN Inspections Viewed

*PM3107113592 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 31 Jul 92 Morning Edition p 5*

[Georgiy Stepanov report: "While UN Experts Look For Documents, Saddam Husayn Crosses Tigris River"]

[Excerpts] A group of UN experts failed to find any secret materials concerning the Iraqi missile program in the Agriculture Ministry building in Baghdad. "There is, however, reason to believe that they were taken away beforehand," Hakim Birmani, the group's leader, said, "since traces of furniture having been moved were found on the premises."

Iraqi television personnel maliciously filmed the experts, who spent seven hours searching for documents under rugs and amid heaps of old documents, raising clouds of dust. At that time a smiling Saddam Husayn surrounded by bodyguards was crossing the Tigris River. Saddam was thus symbolically celebrating a memorable date: 33 years ago he managed to cross the watery obstacle with an injured leg as he escaped persecution by the then prime minster, 'Abd-al-Karim Qasem.

Will the president now be able to overcome as successfully the crisis being experienced by Iraq? Will he ultimately be able to hang on to power for the next few years at least? Most observers are inclined to think that the dictator's days are numbered. Saddam's regime is after all held up by terror and frenzied anti-imperialist propaganda. The ring of enemies around him is growing. The Iraqi opposition including Kurds, Shiites, and Sunnis is expanding and broadening its links with the West. On Wednesday, 30 July, for instance, its representatives (leaders of the Kurds—al-Barzani and Talabani, the Shiites—Bakir al-'Allum, and the Sunnis—'Abd-al-Razzaq) met in Washington with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker who assured them that the "United States will resolutely support the bold citizens of Iraq who oppose the tyranny of Saddam Husayn." [passage omitted]

The Soviet Union—now Russia—recently joined the protests at the lawlessness being perpetrated in Iraq. During a telephone conversation with Boris Yeltsin, the White House press secretary said, George Bush voiced a high opinion of the stance espoused by our country, which "firmly supports" the UN Security Council resolutions.

### French Agricultural Minister Arrives for Visit

*LD3007221792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2028 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Igor Shubin]

[Text] Moscow July 30 TASS—Intergovernmental agreements signed by Russia and France on Thursday [30 July] will serve as a basis for the further development of the two countries' interaction in agriculture and foodstuffs production. Louis Mermaz, the French minister of agriculture and forests, told this [to] a news conference here. He arrived for an official visit in Moscow on Wednesday evening.

Under the intergovernmental agreement that is to operate for five years, France will be assisting Russia in getting access to contemporary technologies of the production, processing and storage of farm produce. In addition, France intends to help Russia train farmers and specialists in agriculture.

The Russian side also expressed the interest in France's participation in the programme of creating in Russia the infrastructure necessary for the establishment and development of farmers' economies. Systems of crediting and insurance of agricultural production will be formed. The assistance in the area will also be given through examination and consultation services.

In answer to ITAR-TASS, Mermaz said France intends to develop allround cooperation in agriculture with many republics of the former USSR, including Ukraine, Armenia, Kazakhstan. But Russia is given priority attention in the area.

Mermaz is going to meet Russian Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy on Monday. Mermaz will also visit two joint ventures, in the Stavropol territory and in the Istra district of the Moscow region. The joint ventures were set up with French assistance.

The French minister held meetings on Thursday with Deputy Chairman of the Russian Government Aleksandr Shokhin, Agriculture Minister Viktor Khlystun, chairman of the State Committee for Baked Products Leonid Cheshinskiy, representatives of other Russian agencies and of the Moscow mayor's office.

### Further on Visit

*LD3007222892 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Video report by A. Lutskiy; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] At the French Embassy in Moscow today, journalists were addressed by Louis Mermaz, France's minister of agriculture and forestry, and Russian Agriculture Minister Viktor Khlystun. They informed their audience about the signing of agreements on cooperation in the agro-industrial sphere and on interaction regarding the training of personnel for Russian agriculture. France has already made a substantial contribution toward supplying us with food. One-tenth of grain imported into the country, 7 percent of meat, and 35 percent of sugar are French. To judge from the statement made by Louis Mermaz, his compatriots intend to expand the scope of their activities in Russia, to create new joint enterprises for processing agricultural produce, to introduce advanced technology, and to train our private farmers and specialists. [video shows news conference]

Viktor Khlystun stressed that so many difficulties arose in the course of agrarian reform in Russia that it would be extremely hard to solve them without help from Western partners. In the Stavropol region, for example, French technology is being used to successfully grow sunflowers, soya, and grains. Contacts on the regional level are also growing stronger. Orel Oblast and Champagne-Ardennes are already cooperating fruitfully. I think, Louis Mermaz stated, that with the normal development of economic reform, your country will attain prosperity in the field of agriculture, too.

[Announcer Sergey Medvedev] In the meantime, we are obliged to purchase a great deal of food abroad. During today's talks, Russian Minister Viktor Khlystun declared that the republic might have to buy up to 23 million tonnes of grain abroad this year.

### Memorandum on Space Program With France Signed

*LD3007124292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1815 GMT 29 Jul 92*

[Text] Moscow July 29 TASS—The Russian Space Agency, the scientific and production amalgamation "Energiya" and the French National Center of Space Exploration agreed to implement programmes of four space flights with the participation of French astronauts on board the Russian orbital station "Mir". It is planned to carry out this project within the framework of the agreements reached between the Soviet Union and France in 1989.

In accordance with the memorandum signed on Tuesday [28 July], it is envisaged to arrange flights lasting up to fourteen days in 1993-1994, 1996, 1998 and 2000 from the launching site of Baykonur.

### Grachev Delivers London Lecture on Security

*PM3007135592 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 Jul 92 p 3*

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Dmitriy Voskoboynikov: "Pavel Grachev: New Level of Trust Needed"]

[Excerpt] London— Russia does not regard any state as an enemy, but the transition to mutual relations based not on a balance of power, but on a balance of security, presupposes the establishment of a new level of trust when tackling questions of international relations. Russian Federation Defense Minister Pavel Grachev, who is on a visit here, said this in a lecture delivered at the Royal Armed Forces Institute. He pointed out that political and other efforts to prevent violence "can be effective only if they are based on sufficient military might." "Therefore," the minister said, "in its mmilitary policy Russia is seeking to maintain military might at a level that will deter any potential enemy from using military force and will ensure strategic stability."

Talking about the Russian-American accord on the reduction of the sides' strategic offensive armaments by nearly two-thirds, P. Grachev noted that Russia has "abandoned the old concept of parity with the United States, which amounted to quantitative equality" in these armaments, and has achieved with the United States "common views on the fundamental problems of security and of ensuring stability in the world."

The minister voiced the conviction that the "negative phenomena that accompany the transitional period are of a temporary nature" and that in the years to come the world will see the "revival of a great Russia which will occupy a fitting place among the most highly developed states of the world." [passage omitted]

### Legal Aid Pacts With PRC, Vilnius Signed

*PM3007140192 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Jul 92 Morning Edition p 2*

[Valeriy Rudnev report: "Russian Treaties on Legal Aid. Signed with China and Lithuania, Initialed With Estonia, Still Under Consideration in Latvia"]

[Text] Russia's first agreement on aid on legal questions with another state was the treaty between the Russian

Federation and the PRC on legal aid in civil and criminal cases. It was signed in Beijing by Nikolay Fedorov, Russian Federation minister of justice, and his Chinese counterpart Cai Cheng. Now a similar treaty has been signed with Lithuania.

The citizens of these states may now count on obtaining equal legal protection of their personal and property rights in Russia, Lithuania, and China, and they have the possibility of appealing unhindered to courts and other institutions on issues of resolving civil and commercial disputes and investigating criminal cases. And this means that personal matters between Russians on the one hand and Lithuanians and Chinese on the other hand will acquire civilized forms, as will economic cooperation between the neighbors.

Such treaties are common practice in interstate relations. However, the former USSR did not try particularly hard to follow this practice. Today there is an acute need to conclude treaties on legal assistance between the CIS states. And particularly on criminal cases, where unresolved interstate questions on the mutual extradition of criminals and on coordination in investigations have almost become an insuperable obstacle in the fight against rampant crime. All a bandit who is "being watched" in Russia has to do, after all, is cross its transparent borders. And it is as hard for a Russian investigator to bring back a criminal from one of the neighboring countries as it is to bring one back from beyond the borders of the former USSR.

And there are other fairly acute issues in this connection. There are those who do not want to keep "Soviet foreigners" in their colonies, and threaten to release them. Others, as was the case with Sergey Parfenov (former commander of the Riga OMON [Special Purpose Militia Detachment], who was arrested by the Latvian authorities and quickly turned over to them by the Russian Prosecutor's Office) are trying to urgently register former USSR citizens as citizens of their own country and prosecute them according to their own laws. Still others, practically convinced of their complete impunity both with respect to the neighboring law enforcement organs and their own, start shady financial transactions with the banks of their neighbors in the CIS.

According to Aleksandr Oliferenko, chief of the Ministry of Justice Administration for International Legal Cooperation, his subordinates are working literally night and day elaborating and coordinating texts for treaties on legal aid between Russia and other CIS states. This is their top priority. Although, he observed, it is sometimes easier to reach an understanding with the "distant" foreign countries than with the "nearby" ones.

Today the Russian Ministry of Justice Administration for International Legal Cooperation has sent draft treaties on legal aid to all the CIS states. Lithuania and Estonia responded the most quickly. A treaty has already been signed with Lithuania, and a treaty with Estonia has been initialed, that is, the details have been agreed and it has been prepared for signing at government level. But Latvia and other CIS states are still considering the Russian proposals on legal aid in civil and criminal cases.

### Resumption of Economic Ties With SRV Hailed

*PM3007140392 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Jul 92 Morning Edition p 4*

[Boris Vinogradov report: "Moscow and Hanoi Prepared To Restore Previous Level of Business Relations"]

[Text] The foreign press is viewing the visit to Hanoi which has just begun by the Russian side of the intergovernmental commission for economic, scientific, technical, and cultural cooperation as an important sign of the revival of business and political contacts.

The "gap" of nearly two years in Russian-Vietnamese ties, which was caused by the collapse of the Union, is promising to be filled with lively enthusiasm. Head of the Russian delegation V. Makharadze, deputy chairman of the Russian Federation Government, will sign a new agreement on trade and cooperation whose aim is not only to restore the previous level, but to surpass it.

Both sides recognize that maintaining and extending ties serves their mutual interests. Newspapers are noting that the recent Manila meeting between [Russian Federation Foreign Minister] A. Kozyrev and Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam created a suitable tone for the present round of Russian-Vietnamese consultations.

### Further on Talks

*LD3007160592 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0924 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Denisovich]

[Text] Hanoi July 30 TASS—The talks within the framework of the first session of the Vietnamese-Russian Intergovernmental Commission on Trade-Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation entered their second day in Hanoi today.

The Vietnamese delegation is headed by the vice-chairman of Vietnam's Council of Ministers, Tran Duc Luong, and the Russian delegation by the vice-chairman of the Russian Federation's Operational Directorate, Valeriy Makharadze.

During the session the participants reached accords regarding the renewal of mutually beneficial bilateral cooperation in various spheres on a qualitatively new basis and agreed to volumes of Vietnamese supplies against debts that Vietnam owes to the Russian Federation. Both sides confirmed the clause regarding Vietnamese-Russian Intergovernmental Commission on Trade-Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation, and chalked out its programme of actions.

Valeriy Makharadze was received by the first vice-chairman of Vietnam's Council of Ministers, Phan Van

Khai, who, in particular, emphasised that multisided cooperation with Russia is the strategical course in the Vietnamese leadership's activities.

The head of the Russian delegation reaffirmed that Vietnam will remain a traditional partner of Russia.

### Uzbek Ambassador Remarks on Russian Relations

*MK3107123692 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 31 Jul 92 p 3*

[Natalya Pachegina report under "Diplomacy" rubric: "'The Main Thing Is To Choose a Good Neighbor.' Which Uzbekistan Has Done by Opening a Moscow Embassy"]

[Excerpts] A reception in honor of Yusuf Abdullayev, the newly appointed Uzbek Republic ambassador to Russia, took place yesterday at the Uzbek Embassy in the Russian Federation. The 45-year-old Samarkand University graduate, until recently employed in the republic's national education system, pleasantly surprised journalists with a welcome address in three languages—Uzbek, English, and Russian. While in the English version, the ambassador simply demonstrated a professional competence, he undoubtedly wanted to win over the Moscow public with his refined Russian, and he was entirely successful in this. [passage omitted]

Yusuf Abdullayev informed a NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA correspondent that, as a result of the accord between the Uzbek and Russian presidents, the question of army formations on Uzbek territory had, on the whole, been resolved positively. Specifically, former Soviet Army border troops which have been transferred to Russian jurisdiction will, by mutual agreement, guard the Uzbek-Tajik border. For Uzbekistan, the ambassador stressed, it is a priority object of attention because floods of refugees from the neighboring republic could seriously complicate the situation inside the republic. While externally, Uzbekistan's borders with Afghanistan will be protected by border guards from Russia and Uzbekistan. [passage omitted]

## Political Issues

### Spokesman Denies Kozyrev Resignation Imminent

*LD3107073992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0655 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[Text] Moscow July 31 TASS—Rumours about an imminent resignation of Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev are groundless, according to Vyacheslav Kostikov, spokesman for the Russian president.

"The issue of resignation of the foreign minister was not raised, not discussed and belongs to the sphere of political fantasy," the spokesman said in a statement on Friday [31 July].

The NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA claimed on Friday that Kozyrev's resignation was inevitable. It arrived to the conclusion after it had been announced that Deputy Prime Minister Mikhail Poltoranin, and not the foreign minister, will travel to Japan to prepare the forthcoming visit of the Russian president.

### Poltoranin Denies Rumors

*LD3107114192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1126 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Rostislav Gertsev]

[Text] Moscow July 31 TASS—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev has done much to create normal relations with other countries and "the question of his resignation has never and nowhere been raised," Russian Deputy Prime Minister Mikhail Poltoranin said at a press conference on Friday [31 July].

Kozyrev "is flourishing and will continue to flourish," he added.

He was commenting on media reports that Kozyrev's resignation is inevitable, as it is Poltoranin and not Kozyrev who will go to Japan in preparation of the Russian president's forthcoming visit.

The rumours were denied earlier by the presidential spokesman.

Poltoranin disclosed that it was Kozyrev's idea that he visit Japan.

The territorial dispute will be undoubtedly raised during the trip, although the problem was intentionally bypassed during a meeting with the Japanese ambassador in Moscow, according to Poltoranin.

"The president is going to Japan with a package of proposals on Russian-Japanese relations and we believe it is wrong to tear certain blocks (of questions) from the package," the deputy prime minister said.

### 'Directors' Party' Chief Volskiy Interviewed

*PM3007161592 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No. 27, Jul 92 (Signed to Press 30 Jun 92) pp 8-10*

[Interview with Arkadiy Volskiy, chairman of the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs, by NOVOYE VREMYA editorial collegium member Marina Shakina; place, date not given: "Arkadiy Volskiy: 'Like Ladybugs in a Jar'"]

[Text] The chairman of the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs is considered a highly influential backstage politician in our country, although he is "only" head of one of the many social organizations. They call his union the "directors' party." What do the directors want? Marina Shakina, member of the NOVOYE VREMYA editorial collegium, talks with Arkadiy Volskiy.

[Shakina] Many people think that you and your union were behind the recent government reshuffle. Will you either confirm or refute this view?

[Volskiy] I have no desire either to confirm or to refute that view. We supported the appointment of Vladimir Shumeyko, Georgiy Khizha, and even Chernomyrdin, because these are people who have both feet firmly on the ground. They know what a plant is, what the entrance gate looks like, what oil and gas smell like. The appointment of these people is not someone's personal whim, it is a necessity. I am convinced that the president did the right thing, because there should be people in the government who at least understand what they are saying.

When some of the remarks made by our government figures reach the plant workers, they are frankly shocked. We must, in the end, have ministers who can speak the same language as the people. When the minister of economics says on television that we need a series of exemplary bankruptcies and mentions "Rostselmash" in this context, for the next three days things are in a state of upheaval with us. There are 45,000 people working at "Rostselmash." But the main point is that the plant produces 70 percent of the country's harvesting combines. It is ridiculous to leave the countryside with no harvesting equipment just because they want to make an example of "Rostselmash" to demonstrate the bankruptcy mechanism. None of the three new vice premiers would suggest such a thing.

[Shakina] Are you confident that Gaydar's team will find a common language with the new government members?

[Volskiy] I would very much like them to find a common language. And I will do everything to ensure that they do find a common language.

I have said before, and I repeat to you now: Everyone is entitled to his own opinion—one person may talk about "boys in pink pants," another may say "apparently the boys are tired," and a third may say that everyone is useless. But you have to realize that you are all in the

same team. You are entitled to be in opposition, but in that case, leave the team. I was then criticized for using a rather malicious image—like spiders in a jar. Since then, I have said "like ladybugs in a jar."

It is important for everyone to find a common language, but in order to do this you have to really want to, and there is no sign of that. If people in the government fail to find a common language, it will be very bad for all of us, including me.

[Shakina] But you must know that the appointment of the three vice premiers is being called a breakthrough for the military-industrial complex, which only cares about its own survival. Their interests do not entirely coincide with the government's course...

[Volskiy] Well, you know, if the government were to dissociate itself entirely from the military-industrial complex... It is ridiculous.

Incidentally, I don't know what is meant by the military-industrial complex nowadays. The army is one thing, and military industry is another. I only have the right to talk about military industry. Recently, in a television appearance, Vice President Rutskoy, when asked "Do you represent the military-industrial complex?", replied that the military-industrial complex is Volskiy. I would like to say at once that Rutskoy and the military units represent the "military" element of this phrase, and I represent the "industrial complex" part.

Neither the government nor Rutskoy should dissociate themselves from the military-industrial complex. In Russia alone we have 1,500 plants engaged in military production, to say nothing of the other CIS countries. Some 7.5 million people work at these plants.

For a long time we were afraid of America, and we built military plants in Siberia, in the Far East—half of them are not on the map. The best engineering minds are concentrated there, the elite of the working class, the best—mainly imported—equipment. And now there is really tragic social tension there, because state orders have fallen 60 percent. Enterprises have released people for two months without pay, dismissals have begun...

Today we already have 300,000 unemployed in the military complex, and by the end of the year there will be at least 1.5 million.

[Shakina] Do you think this is the government's fault, rather than an objective process?

[Volskiy] It is an objective process, but you have to fill the vacuum with something. The U.S. Congress has appropriated $400 million for us for conversion, and the EC is now making appropriations. So this money must indeed be put into conversion, not just eaten or flushed down the toilet. We must reduce military output and substitute civilian products, and that needs funds.

[Shakina] You won't get away with a mere $400 million...

[Volskiy] Well, that's for starters.

The Kirov plant, for instance, has gone on leave en bloc until 1 August... Its director came to me and said, I want to start up production of a car. I said, well, try; many others have tried, you try too. With your own casting and forging, the model will be profitable; if you rely on "screwdriver" technology, it is useless. Everything takes money, but the plants have been abandoned to the whim of fate.

Now they are apparently appropriating 100 billion [currency not specified] for conversion. But how? Rutskoy is right, by the way: The money should be allocated via the client. If agricultural workers need a mini-tractor, let them order it from a military plant. At the moment, once again, all the funds are being handed to the defense plants, groundlessly. And that's the government's fault.

[Shakina] Talk about conversion has been going on for several years now but you get the impression that nothings has budged from square one...

[Volskiy] We have upped the proportion of civilian output at military enterprises to 60 percent. They have begun producing machine tools and equipment for light industry and have started making mini-bakeries and mini-complexes for processing agricultural products. Some plants have been leased out. For instance, the military plant built recently in the town of Volzhskiy is now producing refrigerators.

But this still does not apply to about 500 enterprises.

[Shakina] What you have enumerated is all very well but all the same it is a kind of pseudo-conversion...

[Volskiy] Earlier when we started making saucepans at the plant which produced onboard computers for cruise missiles, that was pseudo-conversion. But now at the same plant we are preparing to produce television together with the Koreans, and to make video tape recorders at the "Pozitron" plant. This is serious work and it is making proper use of industrial potential.

[Shakina] But was not an option examined whereby military plants would recover their own costs by gearing themselves to weapons exports?

[Volskiy] It was examined. I consider that the decision made by the president was correct: The plants which are selling their products in the West on a competitive basis are to be given virtually all the currency so that they may use it for the puposes of conversion.

Another question is what is the trade in weapons? How must it be conducted? I think that the participation of politicians in this is essential. Its not simply a case of you shouldn't try to do without politicians, but rather it's just impossible to do without them. Politicians must determine those countries to which weapons must not be supplied, but then, to be quite honest, this does not apply to anyone now; they have to determine the group of countries where this can be done on a competitive basis.

For instance, I am glad that the Finnish Army's arsenal includes both French Mirages and our MiG's simultaneously. Now consider the sanctions against Glavkosmos for the fact that it supplied India with engines for civilian rockets—that is an absurdity. We are simply being squeezed out of the normal competitive market.

[Shakina] How do you propose maintaining the level of our military industrial complex?

[Volskiy] Over a period of many years we have turned out an enormous surplus. I think that it will see me through, and you as well.

For instance, in the past, the Americans supplied Israel with Patriot missiles as a wonderous innovation of military production and these were excellent at bringing down our Scud missiles manufactured in the sixties. But today we have installations that are more effective than the Patriots.

[Shakina] You mean developments in the scientific and design sphere whereas I mean actual production. On what means are you proposing that the military-industrial complex will exist?

[Volskiy] If there is a client, the question ceases to be relevant, does it not? The orders could be placed by the Russian Federation Defense Ministry, or the United Arab Emnirates, or Finland.

If there is no client... Then in general I think that today it will have to manage on credits and I can see no other way out. Government and bank credits.

[Shakina] In your view, what are the prospects for privatization in this sector?

[Volskiy] Privatization will never effect the entire defense industry. Only someone with a sick imagination can put forward the idea of privatizing a plant which produces atom bombs, or the idea of privatizing a cosmodrome.

Some proportion of the plants will be notionally privatized, in the form, shall we say, of turning them into joint-stock bodies. Plants producing both military and civilian products will have to be partially privatized—primarily that part which produces the civilian products. In my opinion this idea itself will have to be treated calmly.

[Shakina] But it is no secret to you that many people perceive behind the advent of your "directors' party" the personal interests of the leaders of enterprises in the course of privatization?

[Volskiy] And all the directors laugh at that. Chubays announced that the directors will be given five percent of the shares. But believe me, they have no money for that. It's just stupid!

[Shakina] Just work it out: If KamAZ is worth 8 billion [currency unspecified] then 5 percent for a director means how much? As if they can buy up those shares!

I have just returned from Ivanovo. The people who the press calls the "red millionaires" are in fact quite destitute. The directors are sitting around unpaid with their weavers.

I have here 60 letters from directors who are tendering their resignations. They are fed up with being the restraining factor. But it is they who are restraining people from going out onto the streets. Therefore they are saying transfer us, just as shop foremen, or anything.

[Shakina] Hasn't Yeltsin consulted you, haven't you met with him?

[Volskiy] That's just the point, he does consult us and we do meet with him. But he did not give us a preliminary view of the decree on bankruptcy. Just before flying off to the United States someone brought him that decree and... We do not even know who brought him it. We will find him.

In the majority of cases not only the Supreme Soviet but also the president and the government send us draft documents. But just now things turned out differently. This is not the first occasion.

[Shakina] What is you attitude to the government? Not to its mistakes but to its course?

[Volskiy] It's a typical question: Are you for or against the government? Are you for the Whites or the Reds? In the final analysis I couldn't give a damn who is in the government. Just so long as the course is implemented, put into practice.

The government is geared to macroeconomics, to the desire to carry out the recommendations of the international financial organizations. But I recently met with the leadership of the International Monetary Fund and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. They say: We are giving you advice but we are not teaching you to make stupid moves. We say: A liberalization of the economy is needed but we are not giving lessons in how to create a cash deficit in the country. That is our specific "innovation."

Our government is just hanging in the air, with its head in the clouds, without its "feet" planted firmly on the ground. It does not want to work with the corps of directors. The chairmen of the kolkhozes and sovkhozes who for the time being provide 98 percent of agricultural output are, in the government's eyes, "red feudal lords" and the plant directors are considered as "generals from the defense industry." As a certain theoretician here said recently, they should get down to some real work. Who should? They should themselves.

[Shakina] But the government's course contains some features which contradict the interests of those same directors. For instance, the tough credit policy or anti-monopoly policy...

[Volskiy] Find me a man from the extreme left or from the extreme right who would declare that he does not support the reforms. If one is to be forund I would tell him that he is a fool. I think even the ultra-patriots are in favor of the reforms. But there must be a mechanism for carrying them out and there is none.

People here are fond of referring to the Polish experience and to shock therapy. But one must not bank on shock therapy in Russia: By dint of our habit of taking everything to extremes, shock therapy here would become shock surgery. And generally speaking, Polish society is far more consolidated—95 percent are practising Catholics. Cardinal Glemp was able to raise his finger and say: No strikes! And there weren't any.

"Solidarity" also united society. The government had "feet" which it planted on the ground. There was support from below. And we want to provide that support.

[Shakina] You said that you couldn't give a damn who is in the government. Does that mean that your union has no political aims or programs?

[Volskiy] We have political aims: we want people to live a normal life. If the party of father Gleb Yakunin or, shall we say, Telman Gdlyan triumphs tomorrow in the political struggle I've got nothing against that. Provided it pursues a correct policy.

[Shakina] Do you believe that there cannot be a serious alternative to Gaydar's cabinet in the country today?

[Volskiy] I support Gaydar. And not only because you don't change horses in midstream, although that is vitally important. But because he is a respected man in his sphere. But you can't be a specialist in everything. Even a supertalented worker on the newspaper PRAVDA can sometimes overlook something. For this, there have to be people alongside him who know **how**. But it would be senseless to change Gaydar today, because he is well versed in his own specialism—macroeconomics. Perhaps even better than my friend Grigoriy Yavlinskiy... It's a difficult question.

[Shakina] What is you attitude to the Russian National Assembly which was set up at virtually the same time as your "Renewal" union.

[Volskiy] Remember 1917. Back in March the Bolshevik party numbered only 30,000 members but in November it had already triumphed. So everything is possible in life. The main thing is to avoid having this happen. People must be able to eat normally and receive wages. Live, rather than exist.

A government figure here spoke on television recently and said: We have been unable to give pensioners their money for two months but we have decided to index their money for these two moneths. Well, they don't need indexation, today they need to eat!

When I talk with parliamentarians, I constantly drum into them the fact that when the cataclysms start, believe me, neither the left nor the right will be left. You naively think that some of you will come through unscathed. Call elections today and who will enter the White House? Quite different people. But they all think that they will still remain, along with their parties and their factions...

[Shakina] Yes, the boldness with which you support the idea of a referendum—including the president—somewhat amazes me...

[Volskiy] But Gavriil Popov thought up the Constituent Assembly. But they won't elect him to the Constituent Assembly, nor me either. Other people would enter it, believe me. The Democrats have already shown that they cannot provide a normal existence for the people, 80 percent of whom today are living below the poverty line. What next? Next will come degradation and lumpenization...

A representative of the government in the Supreme Soviet spoke recently and said that there is no cash so we have to cut back production. Think about it. You can only cut back production by dismissing people. Or by organizing short-time working for them, and that means short wages. And the wages are not not full wages as it is...

[Shakina] You maintain relations with businessmen, with those who we call the "nouveaux riches."

[Volskiy] I do. Konstantin Borovoy is a member of our union's board. Just recently he, among others, has defamed me three times in the press—presumably out of inertia. The only one you can defame with impunity these days is the military-industrial complex. Who else?

[Shakina] That means you don't nurture any prejudices against "speculators?"

[Volskiy] I don't. I have found a very convenient way out for myself— I proposed that my deputy, professor Vladislavlev deal with businessmen. The "nouveaux riches" at the moment produce only about 4 percent of output and we produce all the rest. Every Tuesday and Thursday Vladislavlev has a council sitting, they gather there and discuss how more can be earned and through what. And I occup]y myself with something else. I very much want my native country to be able to live and nothing else concerns me...

## Democratic Russia Leaders Deny Alleged Split

*LD3107121892 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0800 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[Text] At a news conference, Father Gleb Yakunin, Lev Ponomarev, and Vladimir Smirnov, cochairmen of the Democratic Russia movement, denied reports on a split within the movement. The split was allegedly caused by

the recent second interregional conference of Democratic Russia in Moscow organized by the group's radical wing. The cochairmen of Democratic Russia noted, however, that the majority of delegates to the interregional conference has not left the movement. Yakunin, Ponomarev, and Smirnov believe that the official congress of Democratic Russia scheduled for September-October will play a decisive part in eliminating the existing problems.

### Popov Faults Government Foreign Policy

*LD3007194192 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1600 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Report by Ye. Revelskaya; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] The Movement for Democratic Reforms [MDR] acquired official status today in the form of a registration certificate by the Russian Ministry of Justice. Movement Chairman Gavriil Popov thinks that at present it is possible to unite democratic forces and to begin real democratic reforms. He mentioned such diverse organizations as the Democratic Russia Movement, the parties of Borovoy and Travkin, and even some patriotic groups such as those of his theoretical allies.

The MDR intends to fight for convening a constituent assembly and for presidential rule in Russia with restricted functions by the parliament. The movement has its own draft of the Russian constitution that has been drawn up by Sobchak and Alekseyev. Today Gavriil Popov expressed his personal attitude on Russian foreign policy:

[Begin Popov recording] Nobody, not any country in the world, will give us any money. This is Kozyrev's utopia, as well as Gaydar's and all the rest. Only when blocs are formed and Russia joins one of them will the countries of this bloc give everything to Russia as their future ally. [end recording] [video shows news conference]

### Comments on Nomenklatura

*OW3007212992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1846 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The chairman of the Russian Movement of Democratic Reforms [RMDR] Gavriil Popov believes that "the nomenclature-bureaucratic variant of reforms and privatization of property" has the greatest chances for victory at the present moment.

Speaking at a press conference devoted to the registration of the RMDR in the Ministry of Justice on Thursday in Moscow, Popov said that it is impossible to count on "preserving the democratic system in Russia." According to Popov, "a forced scenario of events is improbable" as "at present the nomenclature forces have sufficient influence and they have enormous possibilities to influence the development of events in the country."

The chairman of the RMDR recognized that "democrats are in the worst position now as they more than others are quarrelling and abusing as always and everywhere." Nevertheless Popov says that the democrats have a possibility to unite on the basis of democratic reforms.

He also reported that the RMDR experts are developing a draft decree on elections in Russia which envisages conducting of elections on a party basis. In particular, the document envisages that a political party can take part in the elections if it gathers the necessary number to be registered as a subject in an election campaign.

### Group Completes Anti-Yeltsin Petition Drive

*OW3107103792 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0958 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The "Labour Russia" movement completed on July 30th the collection of signatures under the demand to hold a referendum on President Yeltsin's resignation before his term expires. The campaign was launched on May 1st during a demonstration staged by "Labour Russia" and the Russian Communist Workers Party on the Red Square. One of the candidates to the Presidency from the opposition is general Albert Makashov.

As the movement's headquarters have reported to IF [INTERFAX], the first results won't be announced before the weekend. The signature raising campaign engulfed over 100 Russian cities, notably industrial and administrative centres in the European part and Siberia.

According to the movement's leadership, "Labour Russia" managed to collect about 700 thousand signatures by mid July, whereas in keeping with legislation, 1 million signatures are required to hold a referendum.

### Mass Graves From Stalin Era Discovered

*OW3007195892 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1846 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Over 100 mass graves of victims of Stalin's repressions have been discovered to date as a result of searches made by the security organs, the public prosecutor's office, journalists and society itself. 84 of these are recognised as official cemeteries in Russia. INTERFAX received these figures from Colonel Vladimir Goncharov, a representative of the Public Relations Department of the Russian Ministry for Security (MBR).

Goncharov stressed that the MBR leadership was in complete favour of immortalising the memory of those sentenced, including those buried in the country's largest mass grave in the Moscow suburb of Butovo. Many witnessings of supposed burials in the Moscow environs at Khimki, the station at Mamontovok, and the suburb of Kommunarok have been received.

The MBR representative said that one of the ministry's next collegia will deal with the problem of re-habilitation of victims of the Stalinist terror.

## Economic Issues

### Shokhin To Represent Russia on IMF Board

*OW3007195492 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1846 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russian President Boris Yeltsin has appointed the Russian Government Vice-Premier Aleksandr Shokhin to act as Russian representative on the board of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD).

The Russian leader instructed Shokhin, on 29th July, to represent the Russian Federation in these influential international financial institutions until such a time as a candidature for representative would be confirmed by the Russian Parliament.

### Russian Bank Begins Minting Ruble Coins

*LD3107104392 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1400 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Report by L. Lashchenko incorporating interview with A.V. Voylukhov, first deputy chairman of the Russian Central Bank; place and date not given—from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] [Lashchenko] The Bank of Russia reports that it has begun the mass minting of coins with a value of 1 ruble [R], R5, R10, R20, R50, and R100. They are made of light bimetal and, starting 3 August, if you are paid with these coins then do not refuse them.

[Voylukhov] In a word, this series of coins from R1 to R100 is not unprofitable for us.

[Lashchenko] What money have you ceased printing—R1, R3, R5?

[Voylukhov] We have ceased printing the R1, R3, R5, R10, and R25 notes.

[Lashchenko] You have ceased minting 5-kopeck [K] coins, and K3, K2, and K1 coins.

[Voylukhov] K1, K2, K3, K10—in the old form—K15, and K20 coins are not being minted. The minting of K10 coins in yellow metal continues.

[Lashchenko] Paper money that is out of date are the R1, R3, R5, R10, and R25 notes while K1, K2, K3, K5, K10, K15, and K20 coins remain in circulation. [video shows pictures of new coins, showing R100, R50, R20, and R10 coins. All have the Russian two-headed eagle and the words "Bank of Russia" on one side, with value in figures and the year on the other side. Shots of several notes with values of R100, R200, R500 and R1,000. Interview with Voylukhov shown. Shots of old-style notes that will no longer be in circulation]

### Government Aims To Keep Down Inflation

*LD3107111292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1030 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Ivan Ivanov and Aleksandr Krasulin]

[Text] Moscow July 31 TASS—"We are not proceeding from the instructions of the International Monetary Fund in our work, but first and foremost from the tasks of internal economic policy," according to Deputy Prime Minister Aleksandr Shokhin. "We do not need either hyperinflation, or an enormous budget deficit," he said at a press conference of government members on Friday [31 July], adding that the government intends to keep the monthly inflation rate at a nine per cent level by the end of the year.

At present, the monthly growth of prices equals 15-17 per cent in the country, according to Deputy Prime Minister Anatoliy Chubays.

The main task of the present-day government is to keep the reform process going and make it irreversible, Deputy Prime Minister Vladimir Shumeyko added.

The Russian Government hopes that the cash deficit in the country will be eliminated in several weeks, Russian Economy Minister Andrey Nechayev said.

The issue of mutual debts between enterprises is a major problem and the economic situation in the country will get worse if the problem is not solved, Deputy Prime Minister Georgiy Khizha stressed.

Mikhail Poltoranin, deputy prime minister and information minister, said his ministry will not try to reconciliate the Russian Parliament and the press. "There are people in parliament who would like to take mass media under control, but they will not succeed," he added. The improvement of relations between the parliament and mass media mostly depends on parliamentarians, Poltoranin stressed.

### Chubays Gives News Conference 30 Jul

#### Supports 'Single Exchange Rate'

*OW3007165692 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1539 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Russian Vice-Premier and Chairman of the State Property Committee, Anatoliy Chubays, was not of the opinion that the recent fall of the ruble in relation to the dollar on the Moscow hard currency exchange is an

"expression of a definite tendency." He thought that this was only a temporary jump.

Chubays said that he had discussed this situation with the premier, Yegor Gaydar. The vice-premier stressed that the government was not about to turn down a single exchange rate for the ruble. He added that foreign investors would be able to take advantage of the same exchange rate as Russian citizens.

Chubays spoke on Thursday [30 July] at a press conference in Moscow.

### Sample Privatization Voucher Ready

*LD3007181892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1548 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[By BUSINESS-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow July 30 TASS—The government intends to continue the course at small-scale privatisation in any case. This conclusion can be drawn from a statement that Russian Deputy Prime Minister Anatoliy Chubays, chairman of the Russian State Property Committee, made at a news conference in Moscow on Thursday [30 July]. He promised, specifically, that all citizens of Russia will receive privatisation vouchers before the end of the year. The vouchers can either be sold or invested in shares of enterprises.

Leaders of the International Financial Corporation also participated in the news conference. The experience of Nizhniy Novgorod, where an experiment for small-scale privatisation with the participation of the Yavlinskiy group is being made, was particularly commended. Mayor of Nizhniy Novgorod Dmitriy Bednyakov said that privatisation proceeds successfully and already yields results. Prices in privately-owned stores are lower than in state stores.

Representatives of the International Financial Corporation promised that there will be no problems about Russia's entry into the organisation. What is more, it will become one of its most prominent members.

The need for foreign investment was noted at the news conference. The stabilisation of the rate of the rouble was promised. In any case, this rate will be the same for Russian and foreign investors, Chubays said.

The technological preparations for the issuing of privatisation vouchers has actually been completed and the sample of the voucher is ready, Chubays told the news conference.

"Before the printing of vouchers begins, we need the legal basis, the presidential decree fixing the voucher's value," Chubays said.

He also said that the voucher is rather nice-looking. It will feature a Moscow cityscape in the area of the Russian Parliament House. The Gosznak security printing agency devised methods guaranteeing against voucher's forging. "We believe it will be effective," Chubays said.

The issuing of privatisation vouchers requires certain outlays. The State Property Committee will fix a small amount of money to pay for vouchers. "We believe the payment will range from 25 to 50 roubles," he said.

## Agricultural Issues

### Distortion of Harvest Data To Be Halted

*PM3007153392 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 29 Jul 92 p 1*

[Ya. Bessarab and V. Nedogonov article: "We Would Eat These Forecasts... How the Party Increased Our Harvest"]

[Text] At the beginning of June the Russian president stated for everyone to hear: This fall we are not going to get too good a harvest—in all 96-98 million tonnes.

A month has passed and this figure has decreased. They are now only quoting 93-96 million.

Why is our harvest drying up?

In order to get to the bottom of this we will make a short excursion into the history of forecasting.

What did we know about prospects for the harvest in the years of stagnation? Well, nothing. Only the fact that it was inexorably "ripening," "forming ears," and that "our homeland's granaries" were awaiting it with impatience.

In actual fact, just 10 years ago the system of agricultural forecasting worked accurately and was equipped with the last word in technology.

The Main Administration for the Development and Utilization of Space Technology for the National Economy and Scientific Research received data from several earth satellites in the form of photographs that were sent from there to a special department with the secret abbreviation VNITs [All-Union Scientific Research Center] AIUS [expansion unknown] "Agroresources." In those distant years this establishment, like its sphere of interests, was top secret, although more or less every schoolboy in the 1960's knew the center's leader by sight. He was the famous cosmonaut Pavel Popovich.

During these years the Soviet authorities obviously assumed that by making our own harvest secret we would confuse potential grain sellers in Australia and Canada. They would say, let the capitalists remain in the dark about our harvest until the last minute, then, you will see, we will buy from them a little more cheaply in the fall.

With perestroyka and the arrival of the new thinking, this cosmetic forecasting system died out and VNITs AIUS

"Agroresources" changed its name. It is now called the 'Institute for Monitoring Lands and Ecosystems.'

But the important thing is that there are none of the former rich clients. You see, earlier it was the party's obkoms [oblast committees] and raykoms [rayon committees] that ordered and paid for the majority of forecasts. It was precisely on the basis of the secret figures on harvest yields received by the institute that the party would give kolkhoz [collective farm] members "directives" telling them when to sow, when to harvest, and when to thresh.

In the circumstances of disintegration and lack of money, the Russian Hydrological and Meteorological Center has taken on itself all responsibility for "forecasting" work. Here they apply completely antiquated methods. Data on each crop arrive every 10 days in Moscow from the 1,000 meteorological stations spread about Russia. As a result of making these many telephone calls, special "draftsmen" make six or seven maps on which everything is marked in various colors—from the soil's moisture content to the protein content of each field crop. An expert forecaster, going by previous experience, intuition, and memories of past harvests, estimates what the harvest is going to be like...

This method is at least 30 years old. It is cheap and, people say, completely reliable. Maybe, as reliable as a wooden bookkeeper's abacus compared to a computer.

But what is important does not remain unattended for long. In place of the increasingly impoverished professionals using data from space, various independent services are emerging that are taking it on themselves to call the kolkhozes and sovkhozes [state farms] and even enlisting the services of clairvoyants and fortune-tellers. It has gotten to the point where even the Russian Hydrological and Meteorological Center's workers do not know which data the Russian president used when he was talking about the future harvest: They could have been our own, American data, or perhaps some other data...

However, it is possible even to confuse the forecast's final figures to an unbelievable degree. One set of figures refers to the harvest that has been grown in the field, another to the amount that will be gathered in, and yet another to what will reach the well-known "granaries of the motherland" after thorough drying, shrinkage, and weight loss (specialists call this updating the end result). The forecasters of previous years have tricked their own and other peoples by at least 10-20 million tonnes because, according to world standards, all forecasts are made only by taking the end result into account. But we always pretended that we did not know this.

For example, assessing the 1992 harvest using the 'Soviet' methods, we get yet another record result—105-110 million tonnes!

Let us now subtract 10 million from this and we get a very average harvest. But this one is nearest of all to the actual figure!

It seems, however, that an end has been put to this deception. We were assured at the Russian Hydrological and Meteorological Center's Agricultural Forecasts Department: Word of honor, guys, we will never again lead astray our own and the world's public.

It is only a shame that the harvest will not increase due to this.

## Transport Battalions Help With Harvest

*PM3007152192 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Jul 92 p 1*

[Oleg Bedula report plus Feliks Semyanovskiy "Postscript" under the "Harvest-92" rubric: "Motor Transport Battalions Have Gone to New Destinations This Year"]

[Text] This is not the first time that KRASNAYA ZVEZDA has reported on the military helping with the harvest. Virgin land battalions have always worked hard. But certain rayon leaders failed to adopt a painstaking approach to the military's work at times... Unfortunately, this led to motor transport facilities both unjustifiably standing around idle and being sent empty from one region to another. State money was wasted...

This year, everything is different.

Before concluding contracts with Ulyanovsk farmers for the upcoming work, we paid more than 30 visits to Volga kolkhozes [collective farms] and sovkhozes [state farms], Colonel Boris Kumaneyev, chief of the Volga Military District operational group for the harvest, told me. Platoon and company commanders, together with farm leaders and oblast agro-industrial complex specialists, estimated the yields in literally every field, and only then decided on the overall requirement for people and trucks. The contracts, of which 45 were concluded with Ulyanovsk farmers, provide for joint responsibility for shipping out the grain, mutual assistance, and, of course, reciprocal sanctions. I must mention that for the first time in many decades servicemen are to profit from their work.

I would like to add to Colonel Kumaneyev's reports that the military district, preparing for field work during the summer and fall, carried out a great deal of work in calling up civilian drivers—sergeants and men of the reserve—and getting motor transport facilities ready for Samara and Saratov Oblasts. The military commissariats began staffing platoons back during the winter. At the same time, with the involvement of the district's best motor transport specialists, drivers were trained for work on army trucks.

However, Samara and Saratov Oblast farmers, assessing the harvest prospects in their fields and calculating the cost of the military's labor, canceled all the preliminary agreements for joint work just before the harvest. This unexpected development of events put the district in jeopardy of sustaining substantial losses that the clients were in no hurry to reimburse. Ulyanovsk farmers made

use of their neighbors' lack of confidence. Within a very short time—15 days in all—they readied the requisite number of well-trained drivers. Battalions were given new destinations.

This is how things stand now. Both sides have started calculating money, resources, the labor involved, and the weight of the wheat ears in the fields.

Army trucks have left their field parking lots and are beginning to load the first grain of the 1992 harvest. [Bedula ends]

**Postscript**

I was told at the Russian Ministry of Defense motor transport battalion headquarters that at present three motor transport battalions are engaged in the transportation of grain and other agricultural products—two in Volgograd Oblast and one in Orel Oblast. They have conveyed a total of 28,400 tonnes of agricultural freight, including 22,100 tonnes of grain.

However, work is not proceeding without hitches and disruptions. For example, in Lipetsk Oblast a motor transport battalion is not working because of fuel and lubricant shortages, despite the fact that the local administration should have seen to this before. In other locations stoppages are due to work not being sufficiently advanced.

## Military & Security Issues

### Collegium Reviews Procurement, Housing Needs

*LD3107083992 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1332 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Ostanin]

[Text] Moscow, 30 July—Progress in shaping the state order for 1993's supply of armaments and military equipment to the Defense Ministry, as well as problems arising from it, was analyzed at a meeting of the Collegium of the Russian Defense Ministry held on Wednesday [29 July].

An ITAR-TASS correspondent learned at the ministry's press center today that several options for the funding of the defense order have been prepared. Speakers at the collegium noted that the implementation of the procurement order has been complicated by the fact that interstate arrangements for the Russian Armed Forces to be supplied with defense goods from Commonwealth states have not yet been worked out. During the current year, for example, there has been virtually no procurement of armaments and military equipment in the CIS countries. Signing of the appropriate intergovernmental agreements is required, as well as allocation of the necessary budgetary funds. Customers also need to draw up proposals for the entire range of military procurement in Commonwealth countries and for the manufacture of these products at enterprises in Russia.

The housing problem—one of the most acute problems in the Armed Forces—was also discussed at the collegium session. The number of servicemen without housing is now 104,600. This figure is expected to more than double as Russian troops are withdrawn from the territories of other states, servicemen are redeployed, and the troops are swelled by officer graduates and recruits on service contracts. The collegium has instructed the Committee for the Social Provision of Servicemen, which has been set up under the Russian Defense Ministry, to work out a draft program by 15 October to provide servicemen serving on Russian territory and those transferred to the reserves or retiring with housing and to submit it to the government of the Russian Federation.

The committee, together with the Main Administration for the Military Budget and Finances, is to prepare proposals on increasing the payment norms for monetary compensation to servicemen for renting housing premises.

### General Sees Possible 'Yugoslav Scenario'

*LD3107092592 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 0500 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Colonel General Mikhail Kolesnikov, deputy chief of the General Staff of the Russian Armed Forces, spoke at a session of the Council for Foreign Defense Policy which was held on 30 July. He warned that, in conditions of mutual claims regarding both property and territory between the republics of the former Soviet Union, the process of sovereignty could proceed according to the Yugoslav scenario. This could incite the West into direct interference in our domestic conflicts, Kolesnikov said, including using the pretext of establishing international monitoring of the nuclear potential of the Commonwealth. In the opinion of Kolesnikov, the rebirth of Russia as a new center of power in place of the disintegrated USSR does not meet the long-term interests of the United States and the NATO bloc as a whole.

### Former Intelligence Service Chief Interviewed

*LD3107083192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0607 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[Text] Moscow July 31 TASS—Leonid Shebarshin, the last to head the Soviet intelligence service, believes "we have lost the 'cold war'". This is stated in an interview with him published by KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA today.

Shebarshin said that "the idea of a deep restructuring of Soviet society (perestroyka) began to take shape at the time when Yuriy Andropov became head of state." According to Shebarshin, the State Security Committee (KGB) that had access to any information was the first to realise that "the country was beginning to lag behind in

the competition with the West, exhausting the potential of extensive development and sliding down towards a general crisis." According to Shebarshin, most KGB workers welcomed perestroyka which, as they believed, was based on accurate calculations. "Disappointment came later," Shebarshin added.

"During Gorbachev's first years in office KGB staff members liked him. The specific character of their work made them close their eyes to the business, intellectual and personal weak points of the leaders. The KGB worked for the authority, and the authority should look attractive. Those feelings included illusion, deliberate and involuntary self-deception. This way or other, Gorbachev relied on the KGB, and the KGB relied on Gorbachev," he said.

Responding to the question: What he regards as the greatest achievement in the secret war against the U.S. and what was the greatest defeat, Shebarshin said: "Intelligence activities or the 'secret war', as you may call it, was a component part of the 'cold war' for several decades. Our side has lost that war. I hope we shall be able to draw some lessons from the defeat."

According to Shebarshin, he regards with much regret both the 'cold war' and the economic, political and psychological expenses involved. Nevertheless, both sides are to blame for it, he believes.

## Conversion Issues

### Commentator Views Demilitarization of Economy

*LD3007221692 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1810 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Commentary by Eduard Ryabtsev]

[Text] According to the civilian Deputy Minister of Defense Andrey Kokoshin this year Russia's spending on the purchase of weapons and military vehicles has gone down by 40 to 97 percent. Eduard Ryabtsev makes these comments:

Despite the cuts in the purchase of military hardware many of the 5,000 munitions plants continue to work for defense. What is the reason for the slow demilitarization of the Russian economy?

Some point out to [as heard] the resistance of the military-industrial complex and related government structures. Others realize that it is simply impossible to close down such productions immediately. This would not just leave millions of people jobless—in scores of small towns dependent on such plants life might come to a standstill.

There can also be another reason. Until recently the leadership of the Russian Armed Forces did not even have an outline of a military doctrine, principles of organizing its Army and Navy, which is very important for determining the volume of producing armaments.

The Defense Ministry wants to preserve the best of the military technical potential of the country. Together with other ministries it is trying to decide what plants will remain government-owned and working for defense solely and what will become purely civilian. There are a total of 800 of them.

Still according to different estimates 60 percent of the defense industry produces consumer goods such as television sets, tape-recorders, radio sets, motorcycles, refrigerators, and other household appliances. However, the situation with conversion is not very rosy. For example the plant that used to produce SS-20 missiles now makes baby carriages and beer containers.

The Aircraft Construction Ministry was placed in charge of processing food and vegetables, producing starch, syrup, and macaroni. The ministry responsible for the production of nuclear weapons started making equipment for cheese factories.

This is an extremely irrational approach to costly equipment and first class specialists who could do better by making high-tech equipment. Besides the production costs are soaring in these conditions.

Today everyone who chooses so gets involved in conversion. Admiral Igor Makhonin who is in charge of the logistics of the Commonwealth Navy, believes that in the present difficult situation everyone should be permitted to trade.

The transition to a free market economy, cuts in military spending and the necessity of implementing social and environmental programs forced us to start looking for additional non-budget resources, the admiral says, and we started trading. As a result of commercial activities housing was constructed for navy officers in Vladivostok and Kamchatka, and the latest medical equipment was purchased for naval hospitals.

Meanwhile Russia is reducing the production of tanks and missiles, as well as aircraft, by about one third. Recently President Yeltsin said that the defense industry is responsible for most of the slump in production in the country—11 out of 15 percent. The Russian Army does not have any problems with supplies of modern weaponry. But for a long time the Government will face the complex problem of making this burden on the national economy less heavy.

### Research Institute Produces 'Bulletproof Suit'

*PM3007152592 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1900 GMT 28 Jul 92*

[Report by A. Fidelman and A. Arbuzov—from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] [Fidelman] With the advent of new times, scientific achievements have lost their intrinsic value. In order to survive, research institutes have begun to make production of these products pay.

[V. Shashkin, research institute director] Previously we had a far easier life. We had a certain state order and we did not worry our heads about wages or where to get money.

[Fidelman] But now defense orders have ceased to provide a living for research institutes. And the percentage of military developments has fallen from 95 to 12 percent. It turns out that horseshoes, concrete mixers, and Russian stoves may be more useful than tanks. The work of defending the state has gradually become the work of defending its citizens. These bulletproof vests are unparalleled abroad—their lightness and ability to protect wearers even against assault rifles are of interest to other people beside the military.

Conversion has made us think not only about the durability of a product, but also about its style. The client now is no longer merely a soldier on a battlefield.

Here we have a three-piece bulletproof suit. But there are even more dangerous things than this. Wealthy people in particular can obtain air-conditioned armored cars that look like their own automobile. Even if the state does not need that much defense, its citizens are filling the gap.

### Nuclear Submarines To Be 'Taken Apart'

*LD3107090792 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1100 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Two brief reports on the topic of conversion. Nuclear submarines who have done their bit are ready to leave Sovetskaya Gavan. This was reported today by Yuriy Suvalov, commander of a Navy unit. Moreover, for the first time he reported it not just to his seniors but also to the administration of Sovetskaya Gavan. A submarine base of the Pacific Fleet has been working here, on the coast of the Tatar Strait, for a long time. However, once written off, submarines would still remain in the bay, which used to cause anxiety among the local authorities and the public. Nuclear submarines will be taken apart in the workshops of a specialized enterprise.

## Space Issues

### Four Cosmos Satellites Launched 30 Jul

*LD3107093592 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0925 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[Text] Moscow July 31 TASS—Four satellites of the "Cosmos" series were launched on Thursday [30 July].

Three of them (Cosmos-2204, 2205, 2206) blasted off on one "Proton" booster from the Baykonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan and are intended for the "Glonass" space navigational system which is being created to determine coordinates of air and sea craft.

The Cosmos-2207 was launched by a "Soyuz" booster from the Plesetsk cosmodrome in northern Russia and is intended for space research.

The equipment onboard all of the four satellites is functioning normally.

## Media Issues

### New Radio Station Broadcasting in Samara

*LD3107092992 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0800 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[Text] The Samara airwaves are becoming more and more crowded. Yet another radio station started up today in the oblast center: Europe Plus [Yevropa-Plyus]. Samara thus becomes the third town, after Moscow and St. Petersburg, to broadcast the programs of the Europe Plus Russian-French joint enterprise.

## Supreme Soviet

### 'Text' of General Staff 'Conclusion' on Kurils

*MK3007120092 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 30 Aug 92 pp 1, 2*

["Full text" of "Conclusion (Zaklyucheniye) of the Russian Armed Forces General Staff on the Problem of the Territorial Demarcation Between Russia and Japan," distributed as a document at 29 July Russian Supreme Soviet committee hearings, published under "Document" rubric and headlined: "General Staff: Troop Cuts in the Southern Kurils Must Be Halted. Russian Armed Forces Leadership Conclusion Signed by General Dubynin Adopts Hardline Position"]

[Text] The so-called territorial problem advanced by the Japanese government and certain political parties and supercharged by propaganda apparatus efforts is being raised at the present time to the status of the country's state policy.

Japan's hard-line linkage of the granting of financial aid, the substantial expansion of economic cooperation, and the signing of a peace treaty between Russia and Japan on the resolution of the "territorial question" remains a determining factor in Japanese leadership policy.

Throughout the postwar period this problem has remained the most complex in Russo-Japanese relations.

#### The Military-Strategic Importance of the Kuril Islands

The Kuril Islands are of great strategic importance for Russia because they constitute a natural frontier on the Pacific coast on the approaches to the Sea of Okhotsk and Maritime Kray, substantially broadening the sphere of continental defense and providing security for the supply routes of the military bases located in Kamchatka and control over the waters of and the airspace over the Sea of Okhotsk.

In addition, the Pacific Fleet deploys an ASW [antisubmarine warfare] barrier along the Kuril chain in time of threat to secure the combat survivability of strategic naval forces.

The Kuril Islands are a convenient frontier for the construction of forward material and technical supply bases for the Navy and for Air Forces operating in the Pacific zone. Possession of the Kuril Islands and the straits between them gives Russia an undisputed advantage in exercising control over the passages from the Sea of Okhotsk out into the Pacific and secures their year-round utilization by both civilian vessels and Pacific fleet ships.

From the military viewpoint, the central and northerly deep-water straits (starting from the Urup sound) are the most valuable, allowing the passage of large navy surface ships and submarines. The main trade routes and communications channels linking Russia's Maritime Kray with the east coast of Kamchatka with the Chukot region, and even—via the Arctic Ocean route—with western Russia (Murmansk Oblast) pass via the Bussol and Kruzenshtern sounds.

Because of its geographical position and with its existing infrastructure and established troop (forces) grouping, the Kuril chain plays the main role in supporting the Pacific Fleet's deployment in the Sea of Okhotsk basin and access to the Pacific.

In the event of military engagement with Japan, Japanese possession of the southern part of the Kuril chain could create a serious threat to the remaining islands, whose capture or merely control by Japan would completely rule out the possibility of deploying naval forces to the Pacific, would substantially complicate the task of defending Kamchatka and securing the combat survivability of the naval strategic nuclear forces, and, by the same token, would give a big advantage to the enemy.

With a view to ensuring the security of Russia's Far East borders, Russia has deployed on the islands a limited contingent of Russian [rossiyskiy] troops exclusively for defensive purposes.

The existing forces grouping in the southern Kuril islands maintains a machine-gun artillery division, an air defense fighter regiment, an air defense radiotechnical regiment, two Pacific Fleet divisions, and some Pacific Border District units—in all, approximately 7,000 men, 41 tanks, up to 540 guns and mortars, and 31 warplanes. It is substantially inferior (in the ratio 1:11) to the Japanese forces grouping on Hokkaido. Moreover, in terms of their designation, their methods of performing combat tasks, and their equipment, the Russian units have a purely defensive posture and constitute no threat to Japan. In addition, our potential for timely reinforcement of the Kurils grouping (in time of threat) is extremely limited because of the significant distance from the mainland. In the event of military action, it is practically nil.

What is more, in the northern Kuril islands (from Iturup to the Kamchatka coast), there are no troops, except for 10 border guard details and seven separate radar posts, so that defense in that area is extremely problematical.

The forces grouping in the Kurils is opposed by the Japanese Armed Forces' Northern Army and individual U.S. Armed Forces units, incorporating four divisions (three infantry, one tank division) and totaling over 61,000 men, approximately 15,000 Coast Guard personnel, and police units, with approximately 700 tanks, up to 800 guns and mortars, 90 warplanes, and 128 surface-to-air missile launchers.

Analysis of Japanese-American military cooperation and Japanese Armed Forces operations training on Hokkaido shows that training is not only being constantly improved but has reached a qualitatively new level of development at the present time.

Moreover, the U.S. and Japanese military and policy leadership regards Hokkaido as a main bridgehead for deploying a landing forces grouping against the Russian Far East.

In the course of the Northern Army's annual operations and combat training measures, particular attention is devoted to working through questions associated with reinforcing the Army using the well-developed infrastructure—since the opening in 1988 of the Seikan tunnel between Hokkaido and Honshu islands, especially constructed for the purpose, the Japanese are capable of bringing up reinforcements at a rate of three to four or up to five divisions in 24 hours. All nine infantry support divisions, as well as combat Air Force formations deployed on the other islands have experience in transferring troops (forces) to the northern regions of the country.

The main questions in terms of troop actions tackled in the course of operational-tactical and tactical exercises are tasks concerned with staging sea and airborne landings, also involving civilian maritime transport and the fishing fleet.

In addition, one to two U.S. Navy aircraft carrier strike groups operate permanently in the northwest Pacific, and these are capable of concentrating in the main areas within a short time powerful naval, air force, and landing groupings equipped with both highly accurate conventional weapons and also nuclear weapons.

Thus, at the present time, the Japanese and U.S. Armed Forces are capable as needed—without performing mobilization measures and utilizing a highly developed infrastructure and superior forces and facilities—of mounting at short notice an air and sea landing operation to capture the southern Kuril islands.

At the same time, along with the Russian leadership's political and diplomatic efforts, the established Russian Armed Forces defensive grouping in the southern Kuril

Islands acts as a factor in restraining Japan's wish to resolve the territorial question by force.

The Kuril islands, as a whole, play an important role in the overall Far East anti-invasion defense system, both in terms of repelling a possible American-Japanese aggression and in securing Pacific Fleet forces' egress from the Sea of Okhotsk into the open ocean and of denying enemy naval forces entry to the Sea of Okhotsk via the southern Kurils straits zone.

**The Russian Armed Forces General Staff's Position on the Territorial Problem of the Kuril Islands**

The Russian Federation Armed Forces General Staff proceeds from the assumption that all treaties and agreements, including the 1956 Joint Declaration, retain their force in relations between Russia and Japan.

Assessing the political, economic, and purely military aspects of the "territorial problem" the General Staff makes the following points.

First, any concession of Russian territory to another state could cast doubt on the firmness of one of the main principles of Russian foreign policy—the inviolability of the postwar borders.

Second, that concession will give the Japanese side a pretext in the longer term for advancing new and even larger territorial claims against Russia, in the belief that, by adopting a sufficiently hardline position, it is possible to secure any concessions from us.

Third, the concession or renunciation of the southern Kurils could cause a "chain reaction" of territorial claims from a number of coterminous states and could also weaken Russia's position in border negotiations with China.

Fourth, the importance of the Kuril chain in economic terms, not just to the Far East but to Russia as a whole, cannot be ignored.

Fifth, from the military viewpoint, the handover of the southern Kuril Islands will split the Pacific Fleet forces into two isolated parts, deprive it of a way out to the open ocean via the ice-free Kuril straits, and open up free access for the likely enemy's naval and air forces to the Sea of Okhotsk waters.

In addition, it will widen the scope for foreign intelligence operations of all kinds, disrupt the unified radar net across the east of Russia, reduce the survivability of the Far East anti-invasion defense forces, and damage the security of sea and air communications needed for transferring manpower and materials to Kamchatka in time of threat.

All this demands substantial material and financial outlay on strengthening Russia's security in the east.

And finally, the transfer of the southern Kuril islands could cause mass antigovernment demonstrations by the region's population and strengthen the position of separatist forces to the point of the Far East's separation from Russia and the formation of a Far East Republic.

On the basis of the above, the handover of the southern Kuril Islands to Japan in the foreseeable future, in terms of economic considerations, is scarcely expedient and, in terms of security considerations, is highly dangerous.

**INFERENCE:**

1. Rushing the solution of the territorial problem of the southern Kuril islands in the Far East without comprehensive and considered study, in the pursuit of immediate economic advantage, could have most unfavorable consequences in the longer term.

2. The position of the Russian Federation Armed Forces General Staff is that the problem of a peace treaty with Japan, including the territorial question, must be resolved on a basis of legality and justice, adhering to the five-stage plan [priderzhivayasya pyatietapnogo plana] for resolving the territorial problem of the southern Kuril islands.

3. The question of halting the unilateral reduction of forces in the southern Kuril Islands until a political decision is adopted on the settlement of the territorial question between Russia and Japan should be examined.

## Differences 'Less Great Than Feared'

*PM3007145392 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 Jul 92 Morning Edition p 4*

[Report Maksim Yusin: "Despite Deputies' Pressure, Yeltsin's Japan Visit Likely For September. Closed Hearings on South Kurils Held at Russian Parliament"]

[Text] As expected, the closed hearings on Russo-Japanese relations and the South Kurils problem held at the Supreme Soviet Tuesday [28 July] turned into a clash between the Foreign Ministry—which advocates a "sensible compromise" on the territorial issue—and hard-liners.

At the news conference after the hearings Yevgeniy Ambartsumov, chairman of the parliamentary Committee for International Affairs, stated that "the Russian Foreign Ministry was criticized for clinging to just one option for solving the territorial dispute and being reluctant to take other opinions into account."

He did not, however, specify what this option was. Deputy Foreign Minister Georgiy Kunadze, speaking at the hearings, also refused to discuss the specific plans worked out by the Foreign Ministry. As he put it, it would be premature to reveal options that are at the discussion stage. "The Russian president's official position on the territorial issue will be announced during his visit to Japan in mid-September," Kunadze stated in the interval.

But those opposed to a handover of the islands, fearing unpleasant surprises during the president's trip, insisted on a public discussion of all existing options right

now—in order to ensure that the Supreme Soviet elaborates an action program by September which would limit Yeltsin's room for maneuver.

Many of the participants in the debate found even this inadequate. The demand to cancel the visit altogether—put forward recently by Oleg Rumyantsev, senior secretary of the Constitutional Commission—was supported by some of the deputies. The Foreign Ministry categorically objects to such an "impulsive and ill-considered step." "Postponing the visit would mean taking the path of least resistance. The problems would not disappear, and considerable damage would be done to relations with Japan. Gorbachev's visit to Tokyo was postponed for five years—from 1986 to 1991. And nobody benefited from that," Kunadze stated.

There is one other substantive problem. What reason could Yeltsin give for postponing the visit—particularly now that the timetable has already been announced? Any explanation would be unconvincing. As for the proposals made at the hearings that a postponement of the visit should be sought "at the initiative of the Japanese side," Smolensk Square [Russian Foreign Ministry] believes that this "would simply not sound serious."

Despite the pressure from the Supreme Soviet, Yeltsin's visit to Tokyo will most probably go ahead. The question is, what will the Russian president be taking to Tokyo? What instructions will he be given by the deputies' working group on the disputed islands issue which was set up Tuesday? Just how strong are the contradictions between the positions of the Foreign Ministry and the Supreme Soviet?

Judging by the reactions from the diplomats who took part in the hearings, the differences are not as great as might have been feared. There was consensus on certain issues. For instance, most speakers (with the exception of the hard-line Nikolay Pavlov and his supporters) agreed that Russia, as the successor to the USSR, is responsible for the international obligations undertaken by the USSR—including the 1956 declaration, which envisaged the transfer of Habomai and Shikotan Islands to Japan.

### Closed Hearings Assessed

*PM3007151192 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Jul 92 p 1*

[Article by Aleksandr Golts: "South Kurils: Hearings Closed But Question Remains Open and Many People Are Worried"]

[Text] Despite Russian diplomats' repeated assurances, the talks held on the South Kurils problem were secret after all. Only they were not held with the Japanese. They were conducted by Russia's parliamentarians among themselves and with representatives of interested government departments at closed hearings on 28 July.

But as one sarcastic foreigner remarked two centuries ago, in Russia everything is secret and yet nothing is secret. Indeed, it was not the intention of the organizers of the hearings to conceal their misgivings that the talks between Tokyo and Moscow on the peace treaty and Boris Yeltsin's forthcoming visit will lead to the transfer to Japan of the four Kuril islands to which it lays claim.

Furthermore, the organizers of the hearings tried to acquaint the public with their arguments in confirmation of our sovereignty over the disputed islands. Some of those arguments are weighty. Especially the ones based on such international documents as the San Francisco Peace Treaty (their significance, incidentally, was also indirectly confirmed in Tokyo, where the idea of sending the dispute to the international court was viewed negatively). The opinion of the General Staff is also worth the closest attention: It considers it inexpedient to abandon the islands from the viewpoint of ensuring security.

However, it is not entirely clear whom these arguments are supposed to convince. According to Yevgeniy Ambartsumov, chairman of the parliamentary Committee on International Affairs, the opponents include representatives of the Russian Foreign Ministry, whose stance was criticized "for commitment to just one version of the solution of the territorial question and a reluctance to consider the opinions of others."

However, the nub of the problem is that the Foreign Ministry did not reveal its position either before the hearings or, by all accounts, during them. Indeed, the statement of intent to be guided by the principles of the rule of law and justice cannot be regarded as a position. Tokyo, for example, believes that the transfer to it of rights to the islands is indeed the best way to realize those principles. The only thing that sheds some light on the Russian Foreign Ministry's position is the repeated statements that Russia as the legal successor to the Soviet Union must fulfill the 1956 declaration. I would recall here that under that declaration Moscow pledged to transfer Shikotan and Habomai to Japan. But only after the conclusion of a peace treaty. However, Tokyo considers the return of the islands the main condition for signing such a treaty. Nevertheless, I repeat that the Russian Foreign Ministry's actual plans remain unknown.

Of course, one would like to think that in this instance we are dealing with negotiating tactics. That the concrete proposals have already been drafted and will be presented during the visit (why else has an interdepartmental committee on its preparation been created). And that at the right moment Boris Yeltsin in a typical maneuver will effect a "breakthrough" in the situation by means of a surprise initiative.

But even if that is so, what we are dealing with here is a diplomatic department which while successful in foreign policy tactics is clearly failing in domestic policy strategy. Because in a society which is extremely politicized, any indecision is unambiguously interpreted as a concession to the other side and an intention to give the islands away behind the people's backs. And it would be most naive to suppose that such a situation will not cause

concern in society and that it will not be used as a pretext for a domestic political struggle and simply for people to satisfy their own ambitions.

I suspect, however, that matters will prove to be even worse. That a specific plan for resolving the territorial problem, one approved by the president, simply does not exist at present. Recently we have often heard it said that it is the president and not the foreign policy department that is the source of Russia's foreign policy. Obviously this is indeed so. That being so, what are the recommendations given to him worth if he is not at all inclined to accept them. The indecision is so serious that the legislature is discussing whether this most important state visit should take place! Furthermore, parliamentarians are creating a working group to draft recommendations on Yeltsin's visit to Japan.

The main result of the hearings, if it can be called a result, was, in my view, that it provided further evidence of how much the preparation of major political decisions here is at variance with their adoption. The hearings themselves were an excellent illustration of how difficult it is to catch a black cat in a darkened room. Especially when there isn't one there at all. But you can break an awful lot of furniture in the process.

### Foreign Ministry's 'New Approaches'

*PM3107112592 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 31 Jul 92 First Edition p 6*

[KYODO-ITAR-TASS report under "Diplomacy" rubric: "The Tough 'Nut' of the South Kurils"]

[Text] The Russian Foreign Ministry has elaborated new approaches to the solution of the problem of the South Kurils, according to which it is proposed to return the islands of Habomai and Shikotan to Japan, and then continue bilateral talks on the future of Kunashir and Iturup. The foreign policy department's report, which was submitted to a closed session of the Russian Supreme Soviet on Russian-Japanese relations, says that from the standpoint of international law Moscow has not ensured the legality of its possession of these islands. In particularly, the Yalta agreements of 1945, to which the former USSR referred, did not in fact stipulate that the Kurils should be given completely to the Union. It only gave Moscow the right to demand that all the islands be transferred to its control as a condition of concluding a peace treaty with Japan.

On the other hand, by the peace treaty of 1951, signed in San Francisco, Tokyo abandoned all claims to the Kuril islands. However, the treaty said nothing about what country the Kurils should henceforth belong to; nor did it determine exactly what islands are comprehended in the concept of the Kuril chain.

The Russian Foreign Ministry's new approaches to the problem of the "northern territories" are evidently a reflection of the readiness proclaimed by the Russian Government to conduct foreign policy on the basis of "legality and fairness." They differ strikingly from the USSR's stance, which insisted that Iturup, Kunashir, Shikotan, and Habomai were component parts of the Kurils. However, it is still to early to say that the Russian president will accept the Foreign Ministry's proposals as the official view.

### 'Strategic Importance' Viewed

*PM3107132392 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 31 Jul 92 p 3*

[ITAR-TASS report: "'Strategic' Kurils"]

[Text] Tokyo—The South Kurils, claimed by Japan, are of strategic importance for the defense of Russia, since there is a missile-attack early-warning station located there. This, the newspaper YOMIURI reports citing sources at the Russian Supreme Soviet, was stated by a representative of the CIS Joint Armed Forces Navy at the closed parliamentary hearings on Russo-Japanese relations.

As he put it, the station on the South Kurils is designed to detect U.S. cruise missile launches, and therefore the transfer of these islands to Japan would harm Russia's defense capability.

This statement by the CIS Joint Armed Forces Navy spokesman, the newspaper notes in this connection, was the first official confirmation of the existence in the South Kurils area of a military installation with a direct link to nuclear strategy.

### Rumyantsev on Legal Considerations

*LD2907173792 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1500 GMT 21 Jul 92*

[Studio interview with Oleg Rumyantsev, senior secretary of the Russian Federation Constitutional Commission, by Rasul Mikaylov, member of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet; live or recorded—from the "Parliamentary Herald" program]

[Text] [Mikaylov] Now that the Russian Supreme Soviet session is over, we have the opportunity to talk on subjects unrelated to the session's strict agenda, or to taxes and the economy, but no less important for the future. I have in mind the parliamentary hearings to be held on 28 July. They will deal with Russian-Japanese relations and problems relating to the territorial integrity of the Russian Federation. Understandably, what is at issue are the Kuril islands. Oleg Rumyantsev, senior secretary of the Russian Federation Constitutional Commission, is to deliver a report which will carry the basic information on the subject and serve as a springboard for discussion.

[Rumyantsev] We believe that the whole policy of the foreign policy department has lately been aimed at making this problem, the problem of the territorial dispute between Russia and Japan, into a strictly diplomatic one relating to the revision of borders between the

two countries. On the other hand, we believe that the problem of the Kuril islands is a nationwide problem. It is important from the point of view of international law. It affects the question of constitutional legality within the Russian Federation, its foreign and home policies, our set of foreign policy principles, our internal political situation, the moral and ethical aspect, and the ethics of politics and very many other things.

I have no doubt that what is going on is that this issue is being tackled secretly and behind the scenes at a bureaucratic level. In this connection, I think any bureaucratic solution of this issue will contradict the logic of the democratic Russia, the new democratic Russia which must rid itself of the weight of its past mistakes and its so-called totalitarian legacy. Among other things, this is important for the elaboration of a mechanism for the solution of this problem. A secretly developed plan for handing over the Kurils, without taking account of public opinion, the results of a nationwide referendum, or the opinion of people's representatives voiced at the congress and at the Supreme Soviet, will most of all affect our international prestige.

[Mikaylov] According to the constitution, the foreign policy is surely not determined by the Foreign Ministry, is it?

[Rumyantsev] The fact is that some of the Foreign Ministry leaders responsible for this aspect of foreign policy have mentioned many times that parliament has no right to dictate to the government how it must proceed in resolving specific problems. I disagree with this. The aim of the forthcoming parliamentary hearings consists precisely in working out recommendations to the government. We must make some positive proposals to the president and to the government.

After all, the congress which is supposed to set out foreign policy has issued a clear instruction. Last April the sixth Congress passed an amendment to the effect that the Russian Federation's territory is integral and inalienable. The first Congress of People's Deputies pointed out in Clause 8 of the Declaration of State Sovereignty—it is in fact hanging on the wall over there, framed—that the territory of the Russian Federation cannot be altered without taking account of the will of the population in the Russian Federation.

Therefore, very important issues of the country's law are involved here, and they require that we, the Supreme Soviet, its committees and commissions and the Constitutional Commission, which are permanent representative bodies of the congress, publicly work out a stance on Yeltsin's forthcoming visit [to Japan], taking into account the opinion of our people and the electorate.

I should like to note that there are regular references—and I cannot agree with them... [pauses] when they write articles or give interviews, our Foreign Ministry bureaucrats frequently use the pseudonyms of Smolenskiy or Sennoy after the name of the square upon which the Foreign Ministry is situated. But in my view they should take Kamikaze Samuray as their nom de plume. The fact is that the Foreign Ministry publications are defending the Japanese position too fervently, and I have the feeling that the Japanese and the Russian foreign ministries, you know, are pursuing the same aims, taking care of the interests of one side only. In particular, they say that the international and legal analysis shows that Russia does not have the legal right to the islands of Kunashir, Iturup, Khabamay and Shikotan.

That is not true at all. The legal right of the Russian Federation to these islands is not total, as it has not been entirely finalized in judicial terms, but our analysis has shown that the Japanese side has no legal right whatsoever to these islands. Arguably they may have the right to dispute the Khabamay—we call it an island, but in fact these are a group of islands.

The 1951 San Francisco peace treaty, which the USSR failed to join carries Japan's renunciation of all its rights to the Kuril islands. At that time the head of the U.S. delegation suggested that the issue of the future of the Khabamay islands should be resolved by the International Court. And I think, incidentally, that we need not be afraid of the International Court. For we at least have some kind of legal right, whereas the other side has none at all. That is as far as the aspect of the international law is concerned.

We have already mentioned how the issue affects the constitutional legality within the Russian Federation, that is, the priority of our constitution, and our Declaration of State Sovereignty. However, there are other things to be considered. What is important here is to take a political decision: Either we take on board the ideas of some of the Foreign Ministry leaders, who believe that we should get as high a price as possible for these islands because Japan is a very important source of financial credits, machinery and goods which may allow us to transform the Far East; or we must realize that national sovereignty and the national interests cannot be traded for anything. I do not mean to sound like a demagogue here. The fact is, we must stop trying to resolve this problem at Japan's bidding, by opting for unilateral concessions, we must be principled in our position and understand that although the islands may not quite be ours, they are without doubt situated in the zone of our essential state and national interests and should therefore remain under Russia's jurisdiction, and Russia's sovereignty. We will then be able to begin to seek mutually acceptable compromise not at the bidding of the partner strong in its consistency—which is what Japan is—but because we ourselves have adopted a consistent and principled position.

[Mikaylov] But considering other aspects of this problem, should not one take into account the view that the Kuril islands are territories generally useless for Russia, which only consume funds?

[Rumyantsev] We are reproached for being emotional. But one cannot fail to point out that the approach of

those who advocate the handing over of the Kurils is also emotional. IZVESTIYA has recently published an article that compares the southern Kurils with a corn on the sixth toe of a left foot. This is absolutely astonishing incompetence. For even according to a very rough estimate of the reserves of mineral resources... [pauses] the leaders of Sakhalin oblast have recently drawn up such an estimate. In particular, Vice Governor Sirenko submitted a report, according to which the potential and explored reserves of natural resources alone in the region are worth tens of billions of dollars. That's without counting biological resources such as red seaweed, invertebrate sea creatures of the sea etc., that exist in this area only and cannot be found anywhere else in Russia.

In other words, the tens of millions, or to use a round figure, up to a billion [dollars] of credits, which we will receive from Japan will play into Japan's own hand, rather than ours, since these resources are recoverable and will be subsequently returned by us to Japan. But at the same time we will be losing something which will take several years or, in fact, several decades to compensate.

A group of more than 60,000 servicemen, our friends and partners [as heard], are stationed in Hokkaido, while we are currently keeping no more than 5,000 servicemen there. Even in this respect, the situations are not comparable. That is without mentioning the fact that the islands open up access to the Sea of Okhotsk, where we keep considerable military and strategic forces.

[Mikaylov] Does this mean that we will not have access to the ice-free straits?

[Rumyantsev] The fact is that these ice-free straits have enormous military and strategic importance, and I can say to you that the southern Kurils are as important to us, from a military and strategic point of view, as Japan is to America. It is public knowledge after all that as the United States' main ally, Japan is part of the U.S. military steamroller. In this respect the new thinking must not mean unilateral disarmament. Here is an example from history. In 1919 when the Hungarian revolution took place, Bela Kun and the Hungarian communists disarmed unilaterally to show their love of peace and their openness to the environment. But the Entente did not understand that for some reason, and the Romanians did not understand it either. As a result, Hungary lost 40 percent of its territory. In other words, this idea of unilateral disarmament would be rather strange.

It is another matter, of course, that we must both begin to take measures to demonstrate mutual trust, in a military respect. I have in mind exchange of information on flights and military exercises and reduction in the level of exercises. Incidentally, the other side's exercise activity is quite high.

That is without mentioning the foreign policy aspect. According to some of Foreign Ministry senior officials, we can acquire a powerful political ally in Japan. It is because our Foreign Ministry is silent that Japan is managing to put the problem on an international footing. At the G-7's latest meeting in Munich, the leading Western countries expressed their desire to see this territorial problem resolved. This is a sign that this territorial issue, which is in fact a bilateral problem in Russian-Japanese relations, is gradually assuming an international dimension. Japan is to chair the G-7 for the whole year now. And I am very much afraid that it may try to link Western—non-Japanese—credit aid to the territorial issue.

[Mikaylov] That is what our Foreign Ministry must sort out, surely?

[Rumyantsev] Yes, that is the task of Foreign Ministry which I think must understand that the Western countries are not interested in a considerably weaker Russia and at the same time in a stronger Japan, because this will, incidentally, have a negative impact on our relations with China, South Korea, and Taiwan, all of whom have long overtaken Japan as far as the pace of growth is concerned. In other words, analyzing this large complex of problems, I would like to say that we have no desire to make speeches or be quoted or show off on television screens. That is not our desire at all.

I have raised this issue because I believe that the Russian Federation's foreign policy must be patriotic. In other words, we must adopt the policy of democratic patriotism. We have been rash in giving away the ideas of patriotism, statehood, and national interests to the right-wing and extreme right-wing forces. And when they behave wildly there with their slogans and mottoes, moderates perceive it as some of sort of hysteria of ultra right-wingers and radical patriotic forces. That is wrong. All of our politics—be it the politics of moderates, democrats or conservatives—must be imbued with the idea of patriotism. It is another matter to prevent the transformation of patriotism into chauvinism and aggressive malice against partners. This is why we want to hold these hearings.

The Foreign Ministry's belief that they have experience over there, whereas our knowledge is slight and fragmentary, and that our response to the problem is too emotional and that our policy is effectively foolhardy are quite impermissible. I think the foreign policy department should not adopt such an arrogant and contemptuous attitude toward the people's representatives.

My scenario for the solution of this question is this: I believe that the islands of Kunashir and Iturup must stay under Russian sovereignty. These are large islands. Our position on the islands of Khabamay and Shikotan, which in 1956 we promised and pledged to return to Japan must be amended to the codominant model, that is, joint sovereignty and joint administration. Thus far Japan has not found the joint sovereignty option acceptable, but if we pursue this policy consistently, I think they will accept it, because they will have no other choice.

[Mikaylov] Thank you very much.

### Kunadze on Hearings

*PM3007155192 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 30 Jul 92 p 1*

["Topical Interview" with Russian Federation Deputy Foreign Minister Georgiy Kunadze by unidentified correspondent; place and date not given: "Kurils: Positions in the Talks"]

[Text] The recent parliamentary hearings on the problems of Russia's relations with Japan were held in camera on the decision of the Supreme Soviet leadership. The view dominated that Russia as the successor state of the USSR should preserve all of the latter's contract-legal legacy, exercise all the rights ensuing therefrom, and fulfill all the former USSR's commitments.

The aforesaid also refers in full measure to Russia's relations with Japan.

Certain deputies expressed doubt over the expediency of President B. Yeltsin's visit to Japan in September this year. However, at the same time, the majority of deputies and virtually all of the invited experts agreed that the dates for the visit, which have already been agreed with the Japanese side, should be upheld. Supreme Soviet First Deputy Chairman S. Filatov, who presided over the hearings, concluded the discussion with the remark that it is hardly fitting for the hearing participants to make a recommendation of this kind to the president. After all, as the Russian Federation's highest official personage, the president is entitled to define his position here autonomously.

The hearings were also useful in that, with the exception of a few individual speeches which I would describe as the position of representatives of the extremist opposition (and I am thinking in particular of Pavlov here), the general inclination was not to pit legislative authority against executive authority but, through normal work and cooperation, to define more clearly the positions for conducting talks with Japan. This includes gaining a better idea of Russia's national interests, not only in the complex of strategic aims and ambitions but also in a more acceptable form: taking due account of the sum total of our economic and property interests, and of our interests in preserving the security and psychological stability of the whole society in this difficult period of changes in our life.

### Rumyantsev on Constitution Amendment Proposals

*OW3007171992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1635 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Report by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovsky, and Vladimir Shishlin from "Presidential Bulletin"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] As has already been reported, President Boris Yeltsin proposed several important amendments to one of the existing drafts for a new Russian constitution at yesterday's meeting of the Constitutional Commission. In an exclusive interview with IF [INTERFAX] the commission's executive secretary, Oleg Rumyantsev, commented on Yeltsin's proposals.

Summing up the meeting, Rumyantsev said "Boris Yeltsin has come back to the Constitutional Commission formed by the Congress of People's Deputies," which meant that the president had abandoned his militant stance vis-a-vis the commission and was prepared to cooperate with it. In Rumyantsev's opinion it is a significant fact that Yeltsin has accepted one of the official drafts and suggested that the new constitution be passed in 1993, which Rumyantsev regards as a reasonable deadline.

According to Rumyantsev, all those taking part in the meeting, from Yuri Slobodkin, leader of the Communists of Russia, to Sergey Shakhray, Yeltsin's proxy in the Constitutional Court, had constructive feedback on Yeltsin's proposals. Yeltsin himself noted the civilized character of the discussion. The calm and businesslike atmosphere at the meeting leads Rumyantsev to the conclusion that the Constitutional Commission - a very important elected body - and the president will now have regular contacts. Rumyantsev sees this as a sound basis for surmounting the crisis in the power bodies.

"It seems to me," he said, "that the president would prefer a constitution under which approval by the parliament would be necessary not only for the appointment of the prime minister but also for that of some other key ministers, such as the ministers of defense, security, finance, and foreign affairs. This is a compromise between parliament and President."

Speaking about some of Yeltsin's other proposals, Rumyantsev approved of the idea of restricting the president's right to initiate a referendum. For an issue concerning Russia proper, the president would need consent from the lower house of the State Duma (parliament), for issues of federal concern, from the upper house (the Federal Assembly). Yeltsin also suggested restricting the parliament's right of postponement veto, namely that no less than two thirds of the votes be necessary to reject a draft legislative act introduced by the President. Rumyantsev thinks, however, that this might cause a serious discussion the outcome of which he cannot predict.

IF [INTERFAX] Note: The principal amendments proposed by Yeltsin are: 1. That a nationwide referendum be necessary to change any provision in Section One, "The Basis of the Constitutional System"; 2. That the right be guaranteed to appeal to international agencies dealing with human rights and freedoms in keeping with international agreements signed by Russia; 3. That organizations and public movements propagandizing social and national hatred and hostility be banned; 4. That the parliament's right of postponement veto be restricted; 5. That it be binding for the parliament to hold a referendum if the President demand it; 6. That the president be given the right to set up advisory and auxiliary bodies

for himself and the right to reorganize executive power bodies with subsequent approval by the parliament; 7. That he be given the right to appoint, if necessary, federal officers to posts in republics, territories, regions, autonomous regions, and autonomous areas; 8. That he be given powers to issue decrees in specific fields covered by federal legislation and the right to make appointments in executive power bodies in this period of reform.

### Paper Views Proposals

*PM3007134592 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jul 92 p 1*

[Report by R. Zaripov: "Patchwork Basic Law: Boris Yeltsin Insists New Russian Constitution Be Adopted Before 1993 Is Out"]

[Text] Yesterday, after a long absence, Russian President Boris Yeltsin joined in the work of the Constitutional Commission, accompanying his appearance with a report containing amendments to and comments on the draft Constitution.

According to Yeltsin, it is necessary to "speed up the adoption of the Basic Law, since Russia is suffering serious losses by continuing to live according to the old patched and repatched constitution.

Frequent changeability was a feature of the Soviet Constitution. Regarding Russia as the legal successor to the Union, the president was clearly resolved to repudiate the tradition established by the Soviet Union. It is essential that the new constitution be adopted before 1993 is out.

The main conclusion which can be drawn from the president's report is that what we have here is a desire to strengthen and consolidate dramatically the position of executive authority. The president's proposal to introduce into the constitution so-called "articles of transitional provisions" (articles for the transitional period of reform) can be regarded as the pivot of the report. The amendments to executive authority constitute the major pivotal elements. The president considers that the bases of the constitutional system can be changed only by referendum. At the same time it is essential, in his opinion:

1) To vest the president with the right to set a referendum and reorganize the structures of executive authority with subsequent confirmation by the Supreme Soviet;

2) To authorize the president to appoint if need be federal officials operating within the authority of the president of the Russian Federation to republics, krays, oblasts, and autonomous formations. Changes to the well-known procedure known as the president's suspense veto are proposed. (Today parliament can overturn this veto by a simple majority of votes.) Yeltsin has proposed raising the threshold to two-thirds of the votes, which have to be gathered in each of the chambers of parliament.

The Russian president expressed a number of ideas concerning the Congress of People's Deputies. According to him, the Congress is an "artificial supra-parliamentary formation. The very existence of the Congress of People's Deputies creates an imbalance among the legislative, executive, and judicial authorities. The artificial dichotomous nature of legislative authority inevitably incites it to interfere in the domain of executive and judicial authority." In short, the future of the congress should be decided by the Constitution.

Yeltsin flatly rejected talk about the threat of dictatorship by the president. The amendments aimed at strengthening executive authority are due to the enormous responsibility which executive authority bears for the reforms in the country. As a supporter of a strong democratic state, Yeltsin regards the independence of the mass media as one of the basic conditions for the existence of such a state.

At the end of the session a resolution was passed instructing the Constitutional Commission working party to finalize the draft in the light of the proposals and comments received at the Sixth Congress of People's Deputies and presented by the president. It is intended to hold a plenary session of the Constitutional Commission in October 1992 to examine the finalized draft of the constitution.

### Decision on Economic, Legal Support for Media

*PM3007090392 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 29 Jul 92 First Edition p 4*

[Russian Federation Supreme Soviet Resolution No. 3335-1, dated 17 July and signed by Russian Federation Supreme Soviet Chairman R. Khasbulatov: "On Economic Support and Legal Backup for the Activity of the Mass Media"]

[Text] Having examined, in accordance with the instructions of the Sixth Congress of Russian Federation People's Deputies, the issue of the mass media, and taking account of the existing serious problems of legally regulating the activity of the mass media, and also the great importance of the mass media in the formation of public opinion, the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet resolves:

1. That the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet Committee for the Mass Media, Ties With Public Organizations and Citizens' Mass Movements, and the Study of Public Opinion is to submit to the Fifth Session of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet a draft law on the organization of activity in the sphere of television and radio broadcasting.

2. The Russian Federation Supreme Soviet Legislation Committee is to submit to the Fifth Session of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet a draft law on amending and supplementing the RSFSR Criminal Code and the RSFSR Administrative Violations Code in connection with the adoption of the Russian Federation Law "On the Mass Media."

3. To establish for the second half of 1992 the following procedures for state aid for the mass media:
—the level of subsidies to press publications from the Russian Federation republic budget is to be established in proportion to the results of subscriptions and the print run of the publications;
—the level of subsidies to individual publications is to be determined by the Russian Federation Ministry of the Press and Information in coordination with the Soviet of the Republic Budget, Plans, Taxes, and Prices Commission and the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet Committee for the Mass Media, Ties With Public Organizations and Citizens' Mass Movements, and the Study of Public Opinion within the limits of the budget appropriations allocated for these purposes;
—the further funding of state kray and oblast television and radio organizations from the Russian Federation republic budget is to be deemed advisable.

4. To recommend to the organs of power and administration of the republics within the Russian Federation, the krays, oblasts, autonomous oblasts, and autonomous okrugs, and the cities of Moscow and St. Petersburg that they examine and adopt decisions to grant to local state television and radio organizations, the editorial offices of newspapers and magazines, state printing houses publishing literature in line with state programs, communications enterprises, and the periodical press distributors "Roskniga" and "Rospechat," concessions analogous to those granted to cultural institutions and organizations, including for the payment of leased buildings and premises.

5. To recommend to the Russian Federation Government:
—that it elaborate and submit to the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet by 1 September 1992 a procedure for funding regional and republic mass media that provides for direct subsidies from the consolidated budget of the Russian Federation;
—that it examine within one month the Russian Federation Ministry of the Press and Information's proposals for developing the sector's material and technical base;
—that it make provision in the State Conversion Program for the production of modern printing and television and radio equipment;
—that it extend RSFSR Council of Ministers Resolution No. 416 of 2 August 1991 "On Supporting the Activity of the All-Russian State Television and Radio Broadcasting Company" to the Russian Ministry of the Press and Information's Television and Radio Broadcasting Administration and the state television and radio organizations under its jurisdiction;
—that it elaborate before October 1992, in conjunction with the Russian Federation State Committee for Antimonopoly Policy and Support for New Economic Structures and the Russian Federation State Committee for the Administration of State Property, a program of measures aimed at demonopolizing the printing industry and the delivery of periodical press publications, making possible the equitable participation of mass media editorial collectives in the privatization of print enterprises;
—that it elaborate by 1 November 1992 proposals on additional subsidies to rayon newspapers, and also on financial and technical support of youth and children's mass media, within the limits of budget appropriations allocated for these purposes, and submit them for examination by the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet.

6. The implementation of the present resolution is to be monitored by the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet Presidium.

[Signed] R.I. Khasbulatov, chairman of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet
[Dated] Moscow, House of the Soviets of Russia, 17 July 1992, No. 3335-1

## Yeltsin Purported To Act Soon on Media Issue

*PM3007082792 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 29 Jul 92 p 1*

[Statements by Mikhail Poltoranin, minister of press and information, and Vyacheslav Bragin, chairman of the Supreme Soviet Mass Media Committee, at 22 July news conference, followed by unattributed commentary: "Decision on the Press Has Finally Gone to Press"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted]

Mikhail Poltoranin, minister of press and information:

### "Choosing Between my Position and my Honor, I Would Choose the Latter"

"As vice premier I have already signed an appeal to the Constitutional Court on behalf of the government, and the only reason we did not send it off was was the absence of a written text for the resolution.

"A likely path for the development of events is the following. The Supreme Soviet will begin to 'twist' the Press Ministry's 'arm'—and mine most of all—in order to force us to reregister IZVESTIYA. I have already given to understand that they are even prepared to recall deputies from vacation and conduct an extraordinary session of the Supreme Soviet in order to give the ministry a 'jolt.' But while I am here I shall not do this. Choosing between my position and my honor, I would choose the latter."

Vyacheslav Bragin, Chairman of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet Committee for the Mass Media:

### "This Is a Challenge to the President"

"The recent events in the Supreme Soviet, and the examination of question of the mass media and first and foremost that of IZVESTIYA, is in my view a sign from

the Supreme Soviet to right-wingers of the possibility of forming a bloc with them in the future.

"What happened was in essence an challenge by parliament to the presidential structures and the president, if you take into account the fact that before the question was examined at the session, the president spoke out in favor of unequivocally supporting the mass media, and in particular IZVESTIYA."

(From speeches made at a press conference 22 July 1992.)

Postscript:

During the press conference, Mikhail Poltoranin hinted that in the near future President Yeltsin intends to adopt a series of radical decisions concerning, among other things, the question of the mass media. It has not been worked out what kind of decisions these are. You must assume that now that the text of the resolution on IZVESTIYA has been published, you will not have long to wait for them. The president has laid his cards on the table: On the eve of the last Supreme Soviet session he made a public assurance that he would take the press under his wing and that journalists need not worry about threats from parliament. Boris Yeltsin will hardly go back on his promises.

### Proceedings Instituted To Abolish Decree

*OW3007212792 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1846 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The "Demokraticheskaya Rossiya" [Democratic Russia] movement has instituted proceedings against the Russian Federation Constitutional Court, Valery Zorkin, requesting that it abolish the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet decree on the newspaper "IZVESTIYA". The lawsuit was endorsed by Ilya Zaslavsky, chairman of the Movement's Political Council.

Zaslavsky told INTERFAX in an interview that parliament had no right to alter the newspaper's status so long as this was a court prerogative. He stressed that the Supreme Soviet decree causes an infraction of the Constitution and of laws which were being passed by parliament.

At the same time, INTERFAX learned in the Constitutional Court that any hearing can accept only one case at a time. Therefore other law suits will not be heard until the cases concerning the constitutionality of Boris Yeltsin's CPSU decrees and the Communist Party itself are completed.

### Editor Nadein Rejects 'Legislator's Whim'

*MK3107074592 Moscow MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS in Russian 31 Jul 92 p 2*

[Unattributed report under "Nonstop" rubric: "'We Despise Our Own Law"]

[Text] This is roughly how the essence of the Russian Supreme Soviet resolution on the IZVESTIYA newspaper can be interpreted. This resolution comes into force the moment it is published, that is, today.

The IZVESTIYA staffers' opinion was once again summed up for MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS by Deputy Chief Editor Vladimir Nadein:

"The resolution has been drawn up so vaguely that it can be interpreted in a very wide number of ways. From Khasbulatov's publication of his own newspaper somewhere in Chertanovo to IZVESTIYA's eviction beyond the beltway with the assistance of the OMON [Special-Purpose Militia Detachment]. True, Gaydar's statement that the OMON is subordinate to him and that he does not intend to use force in this instance is well known. IZVESTIYA stresses that it remains true to its recently declared principle of 'obeying the law and not a legislator's whim.'"

### Commonwealth Ministry Called 'Political Mistake'

*PM2807093392 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Jul 92 Morning Edition p 7*

[Article by Pavel Golub: "Setting Up a Separate Ministry for Commonwealth Affairs May Be a Political Mistake"]

[Text] The Russian Supreme Soviet has drafted proposals for a ministry (or state committee) for Commonwealth affairs to be set up under a deputy prime minister. The intention is for the head of the new department to be quite independent of the Foreign Ministry.

The organizers say that the creation of this body has been made necessary by concern for closer cooperation with our "near neighbors." There is no reason to argue with that. However, putting this into practice in its proposed form may be a major political mistake.

The creation of such a department in Russia would undoubtedly elicit an adverse response from Russia's close neighbors. The view of Russia as an empire that formed over decades of Bolshevik diktat has still by no means been overcome. The increase in supporters of the national-patriotic and "great power" idea only reinforces suspicions in other CIS countries about Moscow's aspirations.

Behind the idea of setting up a ministry for Commonwealth affairs can be seen its authors' unwillingness to break with the great-power approach to the "fraternal republics," along with their inability to see that, when dealing with the CIS countries, we are dealing with sovereign states like Britain, the Vatican, or Paraguay. It is not surprising that Russia's closest neighbors see the new ministry as the revival of another superstate "command center."

Among the arguments put forward by the advocates of an autonomous department for relations with the former USSR republics not least is their endeavor at official

state level to underline the exclusive nature for Russia of relations with the CIS countries.

Special ties—historical, economic, and cultural—bind us to our "close neighbors." As far as Russia is concerned, that is the real difference between these countries and the rest of the world. But this historical legacy by no means relieves us of our obligation to deal with them as sovereign partners, complying with all international legal norms and showing the respect customary in diplomacy.

Whether or not an autonomous department for Commonwealth affairs emerges within the Russian Government is a question of political significance and it should not be resolved administratively, but politically. So far it is largely being studied and drafted by administrative methods. The drafts of the relevant documents have still not been made public. Nevertheless, when addressing new Russian ambassadors to the CIS countries fairly recently in the White House, R. Khasbulatov, Russian Supreme Soviet chairman, said that this ministry will be set up shortly. The speaker believes that this idea was discussed with Boris Yeltsin and won the president's approval.

This work in camera may result in Russia's public being presented with the fait accompli of parliament's adopting a decision that considerably affects Russians' relations with their near neighbors.

According to our information, the contenders for the leadership of the new foreign policy department include above all supporters of the revival of so-called great-power status for Russia. This choice is bound to intensify our neighbors' suspicions of Moscow's intentions. On the other hand, a conflict with the present Foreign Ministry leadership, which is endeavoring to destroy the idea of Russia on the international arena as a "monster superpower," seems inevitable in this case.

Looking at history, one is bound to recall that in the British Commonwealth the Ministry for Commonwealth Affairs only existed in the metropolitan country—there wasn't one in New Zealand or Canada. And London gave up this separate department back in 1968, incorporating it in the Foreign Office.

In this connection we must—where possible in the near future—answer the following question: Aren't the people who are broaching the idea of setting up an autonomous ministry for Commonwealth affairs setting themselves the task of turning Russia's foreign policy course toward great power status and underlining its role as the metropolitan in respect of other members of the CIS? I think that the implementation of this idea may deal a serious blow to Russia's international positions and prestige.

## Regional Affairs

### Yeltsin Visits Kalmykia, Omsk

*PM2407143792 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 24 Jul 92 First Edition p 1*

[ITAR-TASS report: "President Surrounded by Problems"]

[Text] Russian President Boris Yeltsin, who arrived in Elista, yesterday familiarized himself with the state of the republic's agriculture.

[A 600-word ITAR-TASS report on Yeltsin's visit to Armavir and Elista, carried by Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 24 July 1992 on page 1 under the headline "B.N. Yeltsin's Working Trip," contains the following additional information:

["Boris Yeltsin's stay in Kalmykia began with a visit to the republican children's hospital in the city of Elista.

["The president then visited the Russian-Spanish 'Agroengineering' Joint Venture's leather processing plant, which is still under construction. Questions concerning finances for the construction work, whose completion requires $4.5 million, were resolved in principle during his conversation with the plant's leadership."]

In the morning he took a helicopter trip over a section of the Volga-Chogray Canal, whose construction was halted a few years ago. The canal bed now presents a picture of depressing ecological disaster. Millions of cubic meters of sandstone were dug out of the virgin steppe land are now blown away by the wind, turning the formerly fertile pastures into a desert.

The president saw for himself that ecological disaster has also befallen the black soil, which covers millions of hectares of land in the Caspian Sea region and was formerly famous for its rich diversity of feed grasses. A sizeable proportion of this area has also become a semi-desert as a result of economic mismanagement. The Russian president had a detailed conversation with Kalmykia's leadership and agro-industrial complex specialists about ways to improve the state of the land.

The helicopter then landed at the private sheepbreeders' pastures of Yashkulskiy Rayon's "Chilgir" Sovkhoz. The Russian president familiarized himself with the problems facing the republic's stockmen—plots of 300 hectares and more are allocated to private farmers here.

On his return to Elista, the president had a conversation with the republic's aktiv members.

In the afternoon Boris Yeltsin flew to Omsk, the last stop of his three-day tour of Russia.

"The success of any reform depends not so much on the political will of those implementing it but on the way its concept fits in with regional factors. Right here we can see a major gap between the center's desire for reforms

and their difficult progress in the provinces," Oblast Administration Head Leonid Polezhayev declared in a conversation with an ITAR-TASS correspondent on the eve of President Boris Yeltsin's arrival in Omsk.

"There is no certainty as regards the main aspect of land reform—the question of ownership. The law has still not been adopted. The question is: Will the land be handed over to those cultivating it, or will this priceless asset go under the hammer."

In L. Polezhayev's opinion, the equality of all forms of ownership that we have recognized must clearly determine the system of state support for private farming. The present level of material, technical, and other supplies for private farmers compromises the actual idea and cools down the peasants' desire to farm autonomously. Any attempts to shift these concerns onto the sovkhozes and kolkhozes, themselves operating under the toughest of conditions, will produce nothing but an outburst of social tension. A serious program is needed here, not improvisation, according to the head of administration.

Omsk Oblast, with its 6 million hectares of agricultural fields, almost 1 million hectares of grain-growing fields, and just under 1.4 million heads of cattle, today has just 2,000 private farmers, many of whom eke a pitiful existence. There is an acute shortage of equipment, seeds, and tools. In Sedelnikovskiy Rayon, for example, only three out of 40 private farmers have managed to sow the fields allotted to them this spring.

Touching on the problems of conversion, which are especially acute for Omsk, the head of administration emphasized that five years of declarations have simply failed to produce a considered program for its stage-by-stage implementation. What else could be expected, seeing that the state lacks a military-technical doctrine, Polezhayev stressed.

Omsk, where defense industry enterprises account for almost three-fourths of the scientific, technical, and industrial potential, suffers from this confusion more than any other city. The oblast was forced to elaborate an autonomous regional conversion program. "We intend to seek from the president and the government an attentive attitude and support for the measures proposed by us," Leonid Polezhayev said in conclusion.

### Yeltsin Grants Omsk License To Sell Tanks Abroad

*PM3007100392 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 29 Jul 92 p 1*

[SIA report under "Only the Facts" rubric: "Arms"]

[Text] Omsk Oblast has received a license signed by Boris Yeltsin to sell tanks which a local transport machine-building plant is producing. As has become clear, Yeltsin believes that Russian enterprises producing military output should not withdraw from the world weapons' market.

### Adviser on Estonia's Recognition of Tatarstan

*OW2507162292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1525 GMT 25 Jul 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Speaking on recognition of Tatarstan by Estonia, the adviser of the Tatarstan President Rafail Khakimov declared that "the Estonian official leadership is pursuing a rather balanced policy and if we settle relations with Russia then other countries will get a possibility to recognize Tatarstan".

"We would not like to force anybody to worsen their relations with Russia but Tatarstan does not object to the Estonian recognition of Tatarstan", Khakimov declared in his interview with "BF" [BALTFAX] making comments on his visit to Tallinn.

He also reported that Tatarstan proposed its candidacy as a mediator between Estonia and the Turkic countries and the Arab world.

According to Khakimov, draft treaties on economic and cultural cooperation between two countries were examined during his visit to Tallinn. The states also reached a settlement to sign an agreement on cooperation in the sphere of science and education between Tatarstan and Estonia.

### Tartarstan Does Not Recognize Milli-Majlis

*OW3007163292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1539 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Tartarstan's Ministry of Justice does not recognize the Milli-Majlis, the representative body of the Tartar people, as a state body of power. The ministry issued this statement in Kazan today in the wake of declarations by several Tatar nationalist organizations which say that the organizations begin to struggle for power and recognize the Milli-Majlis as the only legal body of the Tatar people. The ministry points out the fact that state bodies can not be formed on the ethnic basis.

### Tatarstan Embarks on Privatization Program

*LD3107120792 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0800 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[Text] Tatarstan embarks today on a massive program for privatizing state and municipal property. A state privatization program until 1995, approved by the republican parliament, has been made public. There will be three stages to privatization. Before 1 September all enterprises and organizations on the territory of Tatarstan will become republican property.

### Sobchak Confers With Estonia's Prime Minister

*OW3007155192 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1332 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Estonia's Prime Minister Tiit Vahi conferred in St. Petersburg on Wednesday [29 July] with the city's Mayor Anatoly Sobchak. The two men agreed to set up next week two mixed working groups to resolve problems connected with the visa regime and with settlements between Estonia and Leningrad Region. BF [BALTFAX] learned this from the press service of Estonia's government.

Tiit Vahi and officials from the Bank of Estonia and from the Finance and Trade Ministries who accompanied him discussed with the leaders of St. Petersburg and Leningrad Region problems connected with commodity exchanges and property rights.

### St. Petersburg Mayor Wants To Buy Food From EC

*LD3007184592 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1555 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Nikolay Kondratenko]

[Text] St. Petersburg July 30 TASS—St. Petersburg wants to buy from the European Community the same amount of food which the EC supplied last winter, according to the mayor of the city, Anatoliy Sobchak.

To live through the coming winter the city needs foreign help, he said at a meeting with British Secretary for Agriculture John Gummer on Thursday.

"We hope Great Britain, the current EC chairman, will support our proposal", Sobchak said.

### Joint Russian-Yakut Stock Agreement Signed

*LD3107094292 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0500 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[Text] After two days of intensive work the foundation documents of the Almaz-Rossiya-Sakha closed joint stock company have been signed. Here is our correspondent Gennadiy Yermakov in Yakutsk with the details.

[Yermakov] The number of founders includes the State Committee for Administration of the Property of Russia and the State Privatization Committee of Yakutiya, the working collective of the Yakut-Almaz scientific production association, and the subdivisions engaged in the grading and marketing of the stones, the administrations of the eight rayons of the republic which are directly adjacent to the diamond-bearing province and the Fund for Social Guarantees for Servicemen.

With the signing of the foundation documents of the new company, in practice the issuing of shares was completed for one of the largest mining, transportation, and building enterprises under joint jurisdiction with Russia in the republic of Sakha.

If one is to talk about the privatization of enterprises which are under the direct jurisdiction of Yakutiya, the picture here is the following: Approximately 50 enterprises have been privatized, and 172 applications have been submitted. These were the figures at the start of July.

By the standards of Yakutyia where, I will remind you, there are only 1 million inhabitants, these indices can be regarded as positive in general, but also as evidence of the sluggish progress being made in the privatization process. What are the reasons? Despite the fact that an adequate legislative base has been created for taking enterprises out of state control and for privatizing them, the structures for administering communal property and privatization have not been set up on in all the regions of the republic of Sakha, which has an enormous territory. The State Committee of Yakutiya for Privatization has the same rights as the industry ministries which as, you understand, do not share many of the ideas on privatization. What is more, the experts think that a law on foreign investments and some amendments to the law on property, first and foremost, the right to private ownership of the land, are needed for the actual speeding up of privatization in the republic of Sakha-Yakutiya.

### Six Oblasts Form Program on Farm Machinery

*PM3007092992 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Jul 92 Morning Edition p 2*

[AEN report: "Cities of Central Russia Prepare To Provide Equipment to Agricultural World"]

[Text] Six oblasts in Russia have elaborated a joint program to provide agricultural machinery to collective and private farms in 1992-1993.

A total of 42 enterprises from 20 cities in the Non-Chernozem zone are involved in the program (16 of them as part of the conversion plan). The idea is to start manufacturing loaders, cultivators, pickup balers, potato planters, mowing machines, plows—50 types of agricultural machinery and equipment in all. Furthermore, there is a plan to produce 20 types of small-scale equipment—minitractors, engines, and rotary cultivators for self-propelled chassis, as well as spare parts for imported and domestic machinery.

The annual volume of production will be worth 6 billion rubles [R], and a total of R900 million will be required for the implementation of the program, as well as 98 million-plus foreign currency rubles. As N. Tsvetkov, coordinator of the Association of Cities in the Inter-Oblast Program, told your AEN correspondent in a conversation, the funds will come from the formation of a corporation in the form of an investment association of enterprises, from state support, and from payments within the conversion program. The intention is,

notably, to set up a commercial bank and float shares. The job of resolving organizational questions and elaborating technical policy has been placed on the shoulders of the "Vladimirtraktorservis" business cooperation association, which was formed on the basis of the "Vladimirskiy Traktornyy Zavod" Production Association.

## Moscow Emphasizes Vegetable Harvesting

*MK2807120592 Moscow KURANTY in Russian 28 Jul 92 p 3*

[Report by Vladimir Tereshchenko of the Moscow Mayor's Press Service: "Moscow Ready To Bring In Harvest"]

[Text] The Moscow Government and Moscow Oblast administration have issued a joint resolution on ensuring deliveries of agricultural produce from the 1992 harvest to the capital.

This year and next year Moscow Oblast's farms are undertaking to dispatch to the city 170,000 tonnes of potatoes, 220,000 tonnes of cabbage, 70,000 tonnes of carrots, 50,000 tonnes of beet, 40,000 tonnes of cucumbers, 10,000 tonnes of tomatoes, 25,000 tonnes of other vegetables, and 2,000 tonnes of berries. Moscow Mayor Yuriy Luzhkov laid down that the procurement of this agricultural produce is to be considered a priority task. Municipal wholesale food markets and the ORPO [expansion unknown] are making preparations for the harvest's transportation and storage and are concluding vegetable procurement contracts. They have been advised to pay for the produce at free market prices.

It is proposed to use 40,000 students and 20,000 people studying at the capital's educational institutions, as well as 35,000 servicemen from Moscow Military District, to gather the harvest. Unemployed Muscovites will be able to take part in the harvesting campaign on the basis of direct contracts, as required by state and collective farms. City Hall is promising to allocate additional funds to pay for their work.

## International Affairs

### Commander Dissatisfied With Fleet Situation

*OW3007195292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1846 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] In his interview with the newspaper "ZA VILNU UKRAINU" the commander of the Ukrainian Navy Rear-Admiral Boris Kozhin compared the present situation at the Black Sea Fleet with the situation which was 70 years ago when the Bolsheviks sank the greater part of squadron. As the agency "KHARKOV-NOVOSTI" reports, Kozhin said that "our fleet is going to be sunk - in negotiations".

### Embassy To Open in Canada on 10 Aug

*AU3007131892 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1200 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Text] As we have been informed in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, the Ukrainian Embassy in Canada will, in all probability, be opened by 10 August 1992. On this occasion, a Ukrainian delegation will arrive in Ottawa. It is known that it will include Ukraine's people's deputy and renowned poet Dmytro Pavlychko and several Ukrainian diplomats.

### U.S. Experts To Assist in Science Complex

*LD3007141992 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 0000 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Text] Nuclear power experts from the United States and Switzerland will take part in the building of a scientific technical center in Ukraine. This will be a modern complex equipped with the latest technology. The aim of building such a complex is to use the powerful nuclear potential of Ukraine and solve the problems of employment.

### Ethnic German Housing Construction Under Way

*LD3007160392 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Text] Nearly 30,000 Germans from the states of the former USSR have expressed a desire to return to Nikolayev Oblast to the same land where their grandfathers and fathers used to work. Veselinovo Rayon had the most Germans. The first builders' detachment has already built temporary accommodations for itself there, and is now building accommodationss for families. Similar German builder detachments will arrive in the near future in Berezanka, Nikolayev, Bashtanka and some other rayons of the oblast.

## National Affairs

### Fokin Meets With Trade Union Representatives

*LD3007224292 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1434 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[By UKRINFORM correspondent Aleksandr Litvinov for TASS]

[Text] Kiev, 30 Jul—If Ukraine does not leave the ruble zone in the next two months, then there can be no question of any stabilization of its economy, Ukrainian Prime Minister Vitold Fokin stated today at a meeting with representatives of the republic's trade union associations. They discussed amendments and additions proposed by the trade unions to the text of a draft agreement between the government and the trade union associations for 1992.

The head of the government named artificially created financial complications as the main reason for the difficult situation in industry. He considers that work is being held back by the present system of financial settlements between Ukraine and Russia, which was introduced by the former management of the Russian Central Bank. The prime minister noted that talks are being held today on the replacement of the existing form of settlements and a possible return to the former one, which stood the test of time. As soon as that takes place, then things will go much better, he emphasized.

Speaking about the production of foodstuffs, Vitold Fokin noted that this year's grain harvest in Ukraine is good. The main thing is that it should reach state granaries. At the same time, the prime minister emphasized that retail prices of bread and baked goods will not increase; for some kinds of goods they will even be lowered by 30 percent.

For the time being difficulties regarding fuel remain. Talks are now being held on this with the government of Russia, especially regarding the prices at which it will be bought.

### Prime Minister Postpones Trip to Georgia

*OW3007213092 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1846 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The visit of the Ukrainian prime minister, Vitold Fokin, to Georgia has been postponed for an indefinite time, the agency "KHARKOV-NOVOSTI" reports mentioning the press service of the republican government. The tour is postponed "due to a tense situation with harvesting". Friday [31 July] the Ukrainian premier intends to depart for Odessa.

## Farm Official Warns Against Grain Boycott

*LD3107111392 Kiev UKRINFORM in Russian 1146 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[By UKRINFORM correspondent Nikolay Skrypnik]

[Text] [no dateline as received]—Oleg Dubman, chairman of the oblast council of collective farms and chairman of the "Bolshevik" collective farm in Kremennaya rayon, addressed his colleagues, the heads of collective and state farms in Lugansk Oblast, on the pages of the oblast newspaper LUGANSKAYA PRAVDA on 30 July with an appeal not to play the "grain card."

The elder of the chairmen's corps proved the bankruptcy of the calculations of those heads of the collective and state farms who intend to improve their financial situation at the expense of a grain boycott. They do not want to think about social and political consequences of the price pressure on the government and the local administration. Even the price offered now—about 10,000 rubles for a tonne of grain—Oleg Dubman emphasized, allows collective and state farms to bring the profitability of grain production to 200 to 300 percent. If we do not fulfill the state order we will bring upon ourselves the people's wrath, warned the experienced peasant.

## Network of Military Schools Established

*LD3107104192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1624 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[By UKRINFORM-TASS]

[Excerpts] Kiev, 30 Jul—The first steps towards the implementation of a new concept of military education in the Ukrainian Armed Forces have already been taken, said Major General Yuriy Prokofyev, head of the Directorate for Military Education of the republican Ministry of Defense. Within the next few days, nine higher military educational establishments with a status of their own will be opened. Apart from the Kiev military institute for land forces, a military institute for administration and communications and a military institute for aviation will be active in the capital. A military institute of land forces is being set up in Odessa, and a military university and an air force institute are being set up in Kharkov.

The Military Department of Lvov State University will start enrolling students beginning next year. A similar department is already operating at Kiev University and yet another one will open at the Kiev Medical Institute. [passage omitted]

Apart from higher military educational establishments, Major General Prokofyev noted, a network of primary military schools is being created in Ukraine. The first Ukrainian military lyceum named after Krut heroes will open in Lvov on 1 September; education will be in the Ukrainian language there. Next year lyceums teaching different subjects are to open in Kiev and Krivoy Rog.

## Opposition Confident in Alternative Cabinet

*LD3007140992 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 0000 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Text] Vyacheslav Chornovil, co-chairman of RUKH, a very influential movement in Ukraine, declared that this organization, along with other opposition parties, is able to set up an alternative Cabinet of Ministers. In an interview for the press he put the blame on the government for doing nothing to overcome the crisis and for its incapability to realize radical economic reforms. Touching on the issues of the Crimea, Vyacheslav Chornovil declared that only the party leadership of the peninsula, the most red region in Ukraine today, as he put it, favors the idea of its independence. In his opinion, the Crimean territorial autonomy is (?a mistake) of the president and the Supreme Soviet of Ukraine.

## Security Officials Brief on Anticrime Measures

*LD3007152492 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Text] The main effort of employees at the directorate of the security service of Ukraine is directed today at fighting economic crime and at preventing mafia infiltration of the top echelons of power. Journalists were told about this by Yevhen Marchuk, head of the Ukraine National Security Service, at a news conference dedicated to the fulfilment of the laws of Ukraine on fighting crime.

Yaroslav Kondratyev, head of the Supreme Soviet commission for issues of law and order and fighting crime; Yevhen Marchuk, head of the National Security Service and Volodymyr Korniychuk, first deputy of the interior affairs minister of Ukraine, told those present in detail about the activities of the state bodies they lead in implementing legality and law and order in the republic, about ways of improving that work and answered the questions of the journalists.

## New Hungarian Border Crossings To Open

*LD3007123292 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Text] New crossing control points will be opened at the border between Ukraine and Hungary. This is the main practical result of the session of the Ukrainian-Hungarian commission on ethnic minorities which took place in Budapest. The sides stated that increasing the number of such points in border regions corresponds to the growing humanitarian exchange between the two states. It, in particular, concerns the large communities—the Ukrainian one in Hungary and ethnic Hungarians in the western oblasts of Ukraine.

## Coal Industry Officials Gather in Donetsk

*LD3007154292 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Text] In Donestsk, the extended collegium of the State Committee for the Coal Industry has studied the concept of developing the coal industry of Ukraine and its social areas through the year 2005. Stanislav Yanko, first deputy committee head, presented a report. Speakers included general and technical directors, directors for issues of capital construction at all coal associations, leaders of coal construction directorates and plants, institute and mine directors and trade union leaders. The best propositions of many of the speakers were included in a resolution adopted by the collegium of the State Committee for the Coal Industry of Ukraine. They are directed at supporting the industry and developing its social aspects.

There was also an address to the Ukraine Cabinet of Ministers on subsidies to the Coal Industry for 1993-2000.

## Further on Fires in Chernobyl Nuclear Zone

*LD3007225292 Kiev Ukrayinske Telebachennya Television Network in Ukrainian 1600 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Text] We have already reported about fires in the Chernobyl nuclear electric power station evacuation zone. Centers of fire in the eastern part of the large tract of forest have been liquidated. The fire spreading toward the west on an area of up to 200 hectares has been localized. An increased radiation background has been registered in Chernobyl although it does not exceed acceptable levels. Operational headquarters have been created to coordinate firefighting measures.

## Ukraine Not To Build Own Space Industry

*LD3007135392 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 0000 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Text] Ukraine has a powerful scientific potential in the field of space engineering, however, it is not going to build its own space industry. This has been stated by General Director of the National Space Agency Volodymyr Horbulin in his interview for the newspaper 'MOLOD UKRAYNIY'. He also said that the disruption of ties with Russia and Kazakhstan will undermine Ukraine's progress in space exploration. At the same time, Ukraine regards itself one of the legal successors of the space infrastructure of the former Soviet Union. Ukraine has a legitimate right for its share of the property created through common effort, indicated Volodymyr Horbulin.

## Kazakhstan

### Cabinet Adopts Resolution on Measures for Poor

*LD3007225392 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1100 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Text] The Kazakh Cabinet of Ministers adopted a resolution today on additional measures for the state support of needy groups of the population. All non-working pensioners will receive a one-time payment of 500 rubles per month in August and September. Families with children under the age of 18 will also receive a one-time monthly allowance in August and September. The Ministry for the Social Protection of the Population and the heads of local administrations are instructed to ensure that timely payments to non-working pensioners and those receiving allowances for children are organized.

### Prime Minister Tereshchenko Visits State Farm

*LD3107105192 Alma-Ata Kazakh Radio Network in Russian 1400 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Excerpt] Yesterday, Prime Minister Sergey Tereshchenko visited the Kokselenko state farm yesterday in Alma-Ata Oblast. He took an interest in the organization of harvesting work, mastering new forms of farming, and people's living conditions. He talked about the measures being taken by the government to take the republic's economy out of a state of crisis and to strengthen the social protection of the people of Kazakhstan.

In reply, machine operators and specialists shared their plans and hopes, expressed alarm at the growing shortage of fuel and lubricating materials, spare parts and equipment, the galloping increase in prices for equipment and the sharp price increases in the cost of products from agriculture and livestock farming, as well as a deterioration of material prosperity among agricultural workers.

Answering the demands and questions from his questioners, the prime minister explained that these and other difficulties are temporary and inevitable in conditions of a transition period. One needs to steadfastly endure them, to display greater initiative and business skill and native wit, striving for a sharp turning point in the productivity of the fields and an increase in the quality and variety of produce, which is exactly what is required for genuine market relations.

The government believes it has a duty to help agricultural workers to tune in to new ways. A considerable amount has already been done in this regard and specific steps will continue to be taken in this direction. [passage omitted]

## Tajikistan

### Nabiyev Notes Difficulty in Confiscating Arms

*LD3007211992 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 1700 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Text] As we have reported, a meeting attended by heads of ministries and departments, officials of local government and representatives of law enforcement bodies was held on 30 July chaired by republic President Rahmon Nabiyev. The meeting discussed progress of the implementation of president's decrees and government decisions on confiscation of weapons and military equipment, which people illegally possess.

The president said that regrettably, the implementation of disarmament has not gained any momentum. The reasons for this lack of momentum in implementation of decisions should be analyzed comprehensively and resolute measures should be adopted in order to implement the (?contents) of the conciliation agreement signed in Khorog.

A report was presented by Deputy Premier Davlat Usmon. Speaking on the progress of disarmament, he said that until 1 July, around 160 weapons were confiscated. However, due to increased tension in disturbed regions of the republic, this measure was generally ignored since that date. Despite a joint plan drawn by the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the National Security Committee, and the Defense Committee to carry out this objective, its implementation is facing difficulties in view of lack of coordination between these departments. The government of national reconciliation, according to the speaker, is in practice [words indistinct].

Navjuvanov, the internal affairs minister, presented operational information on people possessing weapons. According to him, the number of weapons in the hands of the people reaches 15,000.

### Issues Stabilization Decree

*LD3107081592 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0747 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Gridneva]

[Excerpt] Dushanbe July 31 TASS—Tajik President Rakhman Nabiyev issued a decree today on measures for stabilising the socio-political situation in the republic as soon as possible, stopping the fratricidal war and putting into effect the peace agreement signed on July 27 in Khorog by representatives of political parties and movements, leaders of armed groups and the Tajik Government. The agreement envisages the immediate disarmament of all para-military groups and removal of illegal armed posts.

The decree provides for the creation of a Republican Commission and similar commissions and headquarters in the conflict zone with the participation of local bodies of power, representatives of the opposition forces, law

enforcement agencies and representatives of other organisations, which are to control the handing in and confiscation of weapons.

By all appearances, the decree was issued, because that the stabilisation process is developing too slowly in the republic, despite the peace agreement. [passage ommited]

### Notes Illegal Border Crossings

*LD3107111192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0936 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[By TIA "Khovar" correspondent Salokhuddin Ergashev for TASS]

[Text] Dushanbe, 31 Jul—There will be no criminal proceedings against citizens of Tajikistan who have illegally crossed the state border into Afghanistan. This is stipulated in republican President Rakhman Nabiyev's decree on measures to stabilize the situation in Tajikistan. The document says, however, that this will be conditional on the citizens returning to Tajikistan without weapons or voluntarily surrendering their weapons on their return to the country before 1 September 1992.

This is the result of the fact that events on the Tajik-Afghan border are moving in an undesirable direction. Individuals and whole groups are crossing to the territory of the adjacent state with the aim of acquiring firearms from field commanders. According to preliminary information from the operational group command of the Central Asian Border District, there are currently around 250 Tajik citizens on the territory of the neighboring state. Border troop operations to prevent border violations are complicated by increasingly frequent instances of opposition on the part of the local population on the border.

Under the president's decree, the National Security Committee and the Ministry of Internal Affairs, together with the operational group of the Central Asian Border District, are instructed to work out a plan for joint action to provide reliable security on the state border and to prevent the illicit movement of weapons and ammunition onto the territory of Tajikistan over the Tajik-Afghan border. The decree is also aimed at improving the living conditions of border troops and their families.

### Border Guards Help Stabilize Afghan Border

*OW3007182292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1637 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Report by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovsky, and Vladimir Shishlin from "Presidential Bulletin"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The agreements between the republican leadership and the leader of the Russian delegation Aleksandr Shokhin on the transfer of the frontier guards stationed in Tajikistan under the Russian jurisdiction helped "to slightly stabilize" the situation on the Tajik-Afghan border over the last period of time, the Department of the Middle Asian Frontier Forces' District reported to "IF" [INTERFAX]. The representatives of the military district believe that the Khorog Agreement of the warring sides, direct contacts of the frontier detachment's leadership with the local authorities and armed groups helped to improve the situation.

In accordance with the agreement reached during the visit of the commander of the Russian frontier guards V. Shlyakhtin to Dushanbe one thousand rank-and-file frontier guards Russians will come to Tajikistan to serve there [sentence as received].

Besides the department of the frontier district reported that attempts to trespass and transfer of weapons are being repeated. The last attempt was registered on July 27 when the frontier guards captured a 12-strong group with weapons, two of the captured were wounded.

### Khorog Accords Commission Begins Work

*LD3107112892 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 1200 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Text] In accordance with article eight of the Khorog agreement, the Supreme Soviet Presidium has established a 47-man commission led by Akbarsho Iskandarov [acting chairman of the Tajikistan Supreme Soviet].

Article eight of the agreement says: to end mistrust between the opposing sides and to ensure the equal surrender of arms, a joint special republican, oblast, town and rayon commission will be formed of representatives of political parties and organizations, state authorities, clergy, trade union federations and youth organizations. Representatives of armed formations can serve in the commission as observers.

We should add that practical work has already begun. Today a group led by Sayfoddin Turayev flew to Kulyab Oblast and another group led by Muradali Salehov left for Kurgan-Tyube Oblast.

### Military Denies Involvement in Clashes

*LD3007213892 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 1700 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Text] Major General Muhriddin Ashurov, commander of the 201st Motor Rifle Division stationed in Tajikistan, at a news conference held today in Dushanbe, officially denied rumors in some of the the mass media alleging that military servicemen used their weapons on 27 July during clashes between armed formations in Bakhtar Rayon, Kurgan-Tyube Oblast. The general said that this malicious provocation was designed to create distrust toward the division's military servicemen, who are now an important factor in normalizing the situation in the republic and who perform a peacekeeping role.

Gen. Ashurov said that deputy military [word indistinct] of Dushanbe Garrison and investigators from the procurator's office of Kurgan-Tyube Oblast carried out on-site investigations where clashes took place in order to fully shed light on the tragic events. The operational group of investigators did not find any criminal involvement in the actions of military servicemen. Such rumors that soldiers were drunk during operations in Bakhtar Rayon were also disproved.

The general also visited the scene. According to him, the opposing sides numbered nearly 1,700 armed men in Sar-i Pul village, Kuibyshev [word indistinct], Bakhtar rayon. In clashes which took place, one side used an armored vehicle. Militia forces arriving at the scene to separate the warring sides were not sufficient. Therefore, they asked for support from the armed unit command stationed in the center of the oblast. From there armored vehicles and tanks driven by military servicemen were sent to (?the aid of) of militia [words indistinct] of the oblast. Representatives of the Executive Committee of Kurgan-Tyube and the Internal Affairs Department of the oblast also arrived at the scene. When the opposing sides were firing, the soldiers and their equipment (?took positions). Military servicemen did not take part in [words indistinct] and did not support any side. [passage indistinct]

### Reports Indicate 'Severe Economic Recession'

*LD3107123592 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1059 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Gridnyeva]

[Text] Dushanbe July 31 TASS—A severe economic recession accompanied by a sharp decline in all spheres of economy has hit Tajikistan, according to a report published by the National Statistics Committee. The report appeared in the local press on Friday [31 July].

Industry faces a critical situation. The energy, chemical, food and construction industries are the hardest hit, showing a 50 per cent decline from last year.

One fifth of industrial enterprises have not fulfilled their delivery commitments. The amount of unfinished construction projects has grown almost 1.5 times, while the rates of housing construction have dropped almost 2.5 times.

Agricultural production, affected by natural calamities and political instability, does not show encouraging statistics either.

The production of meat, fruit and vegetables has noticeably declined.

Monetary emission has sharply increased, and new social programmes lacking funds are expected to considerably drain the republican budget.

The mass growth of unemployment has been reported. There are now more than 22,800 unemployed in Tajikistan. At same time the republic needs at least some 6,000 highly qualified workers.

A recent emergency session of the Tajik Cabinet of Ministers discussed the critical situation in the economy.

Vice-President Dzhamshed Karimov said that the republic's economy got entangled with politics to such an extent that Tajikistan will not come out of the crisis without immediate stabilisation of the political situation which has affected negatively foreign economic relations and led to a mass flow of highly qualified specialists from the republic, inner migration of the population from areas of ethnic conflicts.

Karimov strongly criticised the Cabinet of Ministers, saying that under these circumstances, governments in civilised countries usually resign.

### U.S. Increases Humanitarian Aid

*LD3007161692 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1032 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Gridnyeva]

[Text] Dushanbe July 30 TASS—The U.S. Government is stepping up its aid package to Tajikistan to help the local population overcome the consequences of natural disasters, a U.S. official informed the leadership of the Central Asian republic on Thursday [30 July].

Stanley Escudero, U.S. Charge d'Affaires in Tajikistan, announced the aid is targetted for the residents of the Kulyab and Komsomolabad regions, where mudslides and flooding in April and May left thousands of people without homes and breadwinners.

In addition to this emergency aid, the U.S. Government will establish soup kitchens in the Tajik capital, the first of which opened Wednesday.

In the past three months the U.S. has sent six planes and 14 railroad cars of provisions and medicines to Tajikistan.

## Uzbekistan

### Government Moves To Attract Foreign Investment

*OW3107021792 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1814 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[From the "Laws & Regulations" section of the "Trade & Investment" feature: "Uzbekistan To Stimulate Foreign Economic Activity"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Uzbekistan will abolish its taxes and customs duties on imports of all kinds of consumer goods, foods, medicines, medical technology and equipment, assembly parts and raw materials from August 1st 1992 until January 1st 1994.

According to an order by Uzbek President Islam Karimov, foreign businessmen have the right to open trade houses, stores or specialized joint ventures in order to sell goods for rubles or hard currency on Uzbek territory. Ruble profits from such operations may be used to invest in joint ventures or to buy goods on republican exchanges which will then be exported by license.

The Central Bank of Uzbekistan has been ordered to introduce a single ruble exchange rate for foreign currencies on republican territory by August 15 1992. The rate will be set on the basis of the current rate on the currency exchange.

The order demands that the government come up with a list within a month of goods and services which require export and import licenses. The government should also determine the licensing procedure and quotas on sales of licensed goods through exchanges for subsequent export. Export licenses for goods with quotas will be sold at auctions. Within two months the government should prepare and publish the republic's investment program, including a list and preliminary feasibility studies for the most important investment projects in priority branches of the economy.

Republican authorities are also planning to create an international cotton exchange and a joint stock (?transportation) company to service foreign trade.

Working together, the customs committee and the Justice Ministry should prepare the bills for laws on a customs code and customs tariffs by September 1st 1992. At the same time customs rates and how to levy them will be differentiated by the conditions of this order and bilateral inter-government agreements on most-favored nation status.

On Uzbek territory, foreign investors and their partners have the right to purchase (at the going rate) work space, buildings, equipment and housing, and to rent plots of land on a long-term basis, exclusively for investment goals.

The republic will allow enterprises with foreign participation not to pay taxes on that part of their revenues which they plan to reinvest in expanding productivity, technological modernization and to realize social programs. Revenues at enterprises which are making capital investments in projects included in the republican investment program will not be taxed for five years.

Foreign investors will pay a 10% tax on revenues they wish to transfer outside the country.

In order to provide the necessary financial and economic guarantees for foreign investors, a national insurance fund is being created to protect foreign investments by depositing certain Uzbek valuables in foreign banks, and by opening insurance companies with foreign capital in the republic.

### Indonesian Firm Extends Substantial Credit

*OW3107103992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0958 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Director General of one of the major Indonesian corporations "Prime Comexindo" Mr. Asgar Mehdi arrived in Tashkent on Thursday [30 July] to "personally specify terms for implementing a protocol on cooperation. The protocol between Prime Comexindo and the Republican Ministry for External Economic Ties was earlier signed in Jakarta during the Uzbek President Islam Karimov's visit.

The corporation has decided to grant Uzbekistan a 100-million-dollars worth commercial credit to be repaid in equal shares within 3 years. Under the terms of the credit, Indonesia will supply to Uzbekistan black and green tea, packing material for it, rice, and children's clothing. Uzbekistan offers cotton in return.

### Decree Issued on Status of People's Deputies

*OW3007165892 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1539 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The authorities of an Uzbek people's deputy can be stopped before the appointed time on the decision of the Supreme Soviet, the Decree "On Changes in the Decree 'On Status of the People's Deputies'" which was published on Thursday [30 July] states.

An issue on ceasing the deputy's authorities can be set forth on the basis of "behavior defaming the high rank of a people's deputy, anti-constitutional actions aimed at undermining the grounds of the state structure and destabilizing the social-political situation or an appeal for such actions".

## Armenia

### Gagik Arutyunyan Relieved as Prime Minister

*NC3007143892 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1400 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Decree by President Levon Ter-Petrosyan; date not given]

[Text] I hereby relieve Vice President Gagik Garushovich Arutyunyan from his duties as prime minister, head of the government.

[signed] Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan

### Khosrov Arutyunyan Appointed to Post

*LD3007193492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1823 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[By ARMENPRESS-TASS]

[Text] Yerevan July 30—Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan appointed Khosrov Arutyunyan prime minister on Thursday [30 July].

Khosrov was head of a local parliamentary commission.

Vice President Gagik Arutyunyan was relieved of his duties of prime minister. He was appointed vice president of Armenia.

A 44-year old Khosrov Arutyunyan is a graduate of the Yerevan Polytechnical Institute where he received a degree in mechanical engineering.

Before he was elected a people's deputy to the Armenian Supreme Soviet in 1990, Arutyunyan had been chairman of the City Executive Council in Charentsavan, a major Armenian industrial center.

In 1991, as a people's deputy he was appointed head of a permanent parliamentary commission.

As a member of the presidium of the Armenian Supreme Soviet Arutyunyan took part in the Rome talks concerning the preparation of the Minsk international conference on the conflict in Nagorno- Karabakh.

The new premier is married and has two children.

### Ter-Petrosyan Stresses National Interests, Law

*OW3007171892 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1635 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Report by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovsky, and Vladimir Shishlin from "Presidential Bulletin"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Answering, along with other national leaders, a questionnaire in the All-Armenian Movement's weekly "AIK", Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan said the political interests of his country, full-fledged democracy and the rule of law and order mattered more than anything. The president felt Armenia must gain a foothold in international politics and on the world market even as it was emerging as a new state.

He stressed he was fully open to criticism because he never shied responsibility or had others stand up for him. He felt that when the opposition was censuring, for political ends, performance by the president's men, it was, in fact, criticizing him.

Levon Ter-Petrossyan felt domestic stability was the main achievement of his mandate. He described domestic stability as Armenia's only incontestable asset in relations with neighboring countries. The surrender of the city of Shusha to Azerbaijan at the time of the Tehran-mediated effort to negotiate peace in Nagorno-Karabakh was, in his view, the worst setback suffered by his administration.

The president stressed he had no relatives in high places. Neither had he backed any relation. As regards allegations of one-time KGB connection, the president parried the security service had, indeed, followed his trail in the mid-60s when he identified with the national student movement. He said his inability to obtain a foreign passport showed how close he had really been with the KGB.

### Ter-Petrosyan Visits Border Regions

*NC3107061192 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1730 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Text] Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan today visited the nation's southern border regions to gain a comprehensive firsthand knowledge about the situation there and to resolve a number of urgent problems.

While there, the president will meet the leaders and people of the border regions.

Defense Minister Vazgen Sargsyan and other officials are accompanying Ter-Petrosyan.

### Government Adopts Bill, Considers Decrees

*NC3007145692 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1730 GMT 29 Jul 92*

[Report by Feliks Avakyan from the extraordinary session of the Armenian Supreme Soviet on 29 July—recorded]

[Excerpts] Judging from yesterday's debate, parliament looked as if it was going to end its deliberations in one sitting. First Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Soviet Ara Saakyan, presiding over the session, also expressed this hope. Examination of the draft decision on procedures for implementing the law on privatizing and denationalizing state enterprises and unfinished buildings took longer than expected. [passage omitted]

Finally the bill was put to the vote.

[Unidentified deputy announces results] Some 141 voted in favor, 9 against, and 5 abstained out of a total of 155 deputies who voted. The bill has been adopted. We congratulate all of you. We thank the government and those who submitted the bill and all our committees and deputies who, in these past five days, engaged in an involved debate. [end unidentified deputy]

Armenian Vice President and Prime Minister Gagik Arutyunyan addressed the session.

[Arutyunyan] [words indistinct] I too am satisfied and congratulate parliament on this law, which will enable us to introduce new regulations in the sphere of citizens' economic relations. Since we have already established new economic relationships within the country, we must follow an organized program to normalize these new processes. If, during the formulation of the program, we shape normal economic relationships, we can make our economic management productive. I consider this law to be an important step toward the legislative revamping of our citizens' economic relations. I therefore express my thanks on this.

On the president's suggestion, I am submitting drafts of two decrees. [passage omitted]

Certain difficulties have accumulated in certain border regions. There is a need to coordinate activities among the city and rayon Soviets and Internal Affairs and Defense Ministries and National Security Directorate organizations. The status of some detachments has not yet been resolved. Some of these appear to be coordinating their activities with the Defense Ministry, but a need is felt to coordinate the work of these groups. These efforts should be coordinated with the republic's authorities to find solutions that work. [passage omitted]

Today, organizing agricultural and harvest work has become crucial. There is a need to create a normal situation in the border regions. This normality is mostly being disrupted again because of a lack of coordinated activity. This situation is strongly felt by the local leaders in the border regions. In meetings with us they indicated that the uncoordinated actions are creating serious problems that must be solved.

The situation is particularly serious in Gorisskiy and Krasnoselskiy Rayons. [passage omitted]

Based on the needs felt in these regions, the republic's president is submitting two draft decrees: 1. To introduce a state of emergency in Goris city and Gorisskiy Rayon for two months and to empower the Interior and Defense Ministries to implement this decree and put it into effect after its ratification by the Supreme Soviet. The second concerns Krasnoselskiy Rayon and says that in line with a rayon Soviet Executive Committee request, to secure the population's security, and to organize normal agricultural work, a two-month state of emergency should be introduced. The decree will be implemented by the Interior and Defense Ministries and will go into effect after it is ratified by the Supreme Soviet. After decrees are adopted, military commandants will be appointed by presidential decree to undertake coordinating work. We ask that you ratify these decrees. [end Arutyunyan]

A vote was taken to debate this issue in a closed session. After that, parliament again took up the draft decision on the procedure to implement the law on privatizing and denationalizing state enterprises and unfinished buildings. Two draft versions were presented to parliament, which could not vote on them because there was no quorum. The chairman declared the session closed.

## Security, Cooperation Treaties Ratified

*LD3007133892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0758 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tigran Liloyan]

[Text] Yerevan July 30 TASS—The Armenian Parliament has ratified the Treaty on Collective Security and a corresponding agreement, signed by heads of CIS states in Tashkent on May 15, at an extraordinary session of the parliament which ended here on Thursday [30 July].

The deputies also ratified the Tashkent agreement on the order of the implementation of principles of the treaty on conventional armed forces in Europe.

In accordance with the protocol of this document, Armenian Armed Forces are to have no more than 220 tanks, 220 armoured carriers, 135 units of artillery, 100 war planes, 50 combat helicopters and a definite number of other military hardware.

The Armenian Parliament also ratified the Treaty on Cooperation between Armenia and Argentina which had been recently signed in Buenos Aires.

## Adviser Sets Forth Position on Rome Talks

*NC3007185192 Yerevan Radio Yerevan International Service in Armenian 1530 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Text] Zhirayr Liparityan, adviser to the president for policy analysis, held a news conference today primarily devoted to the resumption of the Rome meeting in preparation for the CSCE-sponsored Minsk conference for the peaceful resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

Liparityan reiterated the position held by Armenia and Nagorno- Karabakh: First a ceasefire should be secured and only after that should the status of Nagorno-Karabakh Republic [NKR] be determined through talks. Also, the NKR should be represented in Rome and later in Minsk at the level of legal administration and not at the level of so-called Armenian and Azerbaijani communities.

Liparityan pointed out that the organizers of the conference understand this position. He considered particularly encouraging the Russian Foreign Ministry's latest

proposals touching upon a ceasefire. According to Liparityan, these proposals might be partially acceptable in order to break the deadlock at the preparatory conference in Rome.

Liparityan expressed hope that the other participants in the Minsk conference will display flexibility similar to that displayed by Armenia and NKR. The only way out of the impasse is not to regard the inviolability of borders as (?preeminent) over people's right to self-determination. He underlined in particular that there could be no future for CSCE if it is guided by the principles of maintaining the status quo and does not take into account the prevailing natural and orderly political processes.

Liparityan also noted that if no positive solution is found for the peaceful resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict within the CSCE framework, then serious (?efforts) will be (?exerted) within the UN framework and the possibility of mediation by a number of other countries will be examined.

The Armenian delegation, led by the head of the Foreign Ministry's European department Kristian Ter-Petrosyan, has already arrived in Rome. The Nagorno-Karabakh delegation includes First Deputy Prime Minister Boris Arushanyan and Grant Khachatryan, chairman of NKR Supreme Soviet commission on mandates, ethics, and human and ethnic rights.

Liparityan then touched upon certain aspects of Armenia's foreign policy. He particularly stressed that in its evolving foreign policy Armenia is being guided by the principle that stable security should be established in the region. As such, it is important for Armenia to forge stable and normal relations and mutually advantageous cooperation with neighboring countries.

Finally, Liparityan replied to reporters questions.

## Yerevan Updates Clashes, Border Situation

*NC3007200692 Yerevan Radio Yerevan in Azeri 1330 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Excerpts] Military operations are continuing unabated in the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic [NKR] and on Armenia's border with Azerbaijan at a time when an international effort is being made to resolve the Nagorno-Karabakh dispute. The reason for this is Azerbaijan's attacks and raids on Nagorno-Karabakh and Armenia's border rayons. Tension will continue to prevail and combat operations will be maintained as long as the Azerbaijan National Army units do not withdraw from the areas they have occupied in the NKR. The Artsakh [Nagorno-Karabakh] people are determined to liberate their ancestral lands from the occupationist elements. Incidents of the past few days confirm their determination.

The Armenian self-defense forces have launched a counterattack along the entire battlefront to liberate Mardakertskiy Rayon from the occupationist units. They have placed a large part of the rayon under their control. The usurpationist units have suffered heavy casualties and lost a significant amount of military equipment.

According to the information we have received from the NKR Self- Defense Command Headquarters, Nerkin Oratag in Mardakertskiy Rayon was liberated as a result of the successful operations carried out by armed Armenian units early on 29 July.

For one reason or another, the Azerbaijan Defense Ministry maintained an objective approach in its report on the situation in the region. The ministry's report was broadcast this morning. The NKR self-defense forces have placed all the towns in the western part of Mardakertskiy Rayon under their control. According to information we received last night, the NKR self-defense forces penetrated the Azerbaijan National Army defense lines and maintained their advance on Mardakert. According to unconfirmed reports, several armed Armenian units have reached the suburbs of Mardakert and are clashing with the enemy right now.

Several sources have said that many members of the Azerbaijan National Army units crossed to the Armenian side during the clashes that took place on 28 and 29 July. They were from the Chechen, Talysh, Lezgin, and Russian communities. This is not the first time such an incident has occurred. [passage omitted]

Initial reports from Mardakertskiy Rayon say that at least 100 Azerbaijan National Army members were killed in the rayon over the past two days. Several members of the Armenian self-defense units have also been killed or wounded. Six fighters have been killed and 16 others have been wounded.

An exchange of fire took place between Amiranlar, which is an Azerbaijani town, and Martuni on the night of 28 July. Two Armenian fighters were wounded in the incident. (Charpakh) in Martuninskiy Rayon was shelled with artillery guns from the Azerbaijan National Army positions in Gadzhar on 29 July. Initial reports indicate that one resident was killed and two others were wounded. The Armenian side returned fire. We have not received information on the number of casualties on the enemy side.

Gadrutskiy Rayon has also been relentlessly fired on and attacked. Azerbaijani aircraft have flown over the rayon many times, bombing Gadrut and several other towns. Gadrut was shelled from Fizulinskiy Rayon with artillery guns and mortars last night. Two fighters (?were killed) as a result of the firing. The Armenian self-defense forces were forced to open fire in all directions to silence the enemy positions.

Combat operations are also continuing in the Armenian rayons bordering Azerbaijan. The Azerbaijan Armed Forces have been firing on all our rayons and towns

along the republic's border. According to the information we have received from the republic's Defense Ministry, the Azerbaijani units have selected Yeraskh, (Kevorkhavan), and (Almash) in Araratskiy Rayon as their targets. The towns have come under fire from various types of arms. Five Armenian border troops were wounded and a peaceful resident was killed in (Almash). A school and three houses were destroyed in the town. We have not received any accurate information on enemy casualties. The exchange of fire subsided at 0100 this morning.

Intermittent fire was opened on [words indistinct] from the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic on 29 July. The Armenian Ministry of Internal Affairs has disclosed that an enemy tank was destroyed as a result of the retaliatory combat operations carried out by armed Armenian units in the vicinity of Yeraskh. On the other hand, Armenian units have shelled Aygehovid in Idzhevanskiy Rayon [word indistinct] in Kapanskiy Rayon, and the border towns in Tavushskiy Rayon with artillery guns. Megrinskiy Rayon has been fired on from Zangelanskiy Rayon. [passage omitted]

Remaining committed to agreements is one of the most important requirements of the effort to overcome the confrontation. We hope that the neighboring side will realize this without delay.

[Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian at 1730 GMT on 30 July reports the following:

["The Armenian positions at Lachin were fired upon from the territory of Kelbadzharskiy Rayon at 1700 on 29 July. These positions are defending the security of the Goris-Lachin-Stepanakert road. This information was provided to ARMENPRES by the press service of the Armenian Defense Ministry. The enemy used tanks and weapons of various calibers. The Armenian self-defense forces returned fire and the exchange continued until midnight. The casualty figures are being determined.

["One fighter from the defense forces at Kornidzor was killed at noon today by artillery salvos fired on Gorisskiy Rayon's border zone from Kubatlinskiy Rayon.

["Since 1730 relative calm has been prevailing in Armenia's border regions."]

## Azerbaijan

### Defense Minister's Resignation Offer Refused

*LD2907144692 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1141 GMT 29 Jul 92*

[Text] Moscow July 29 TASS—Azerbaijan's Defence Minister Ragim Kaziyev offered to resign on Wednesday [29 July], however the parliament did not accept the resignation, the First TV Network reported on Wednesday.

The resignation was most evidently triggered by his contradictions with the team of President Abulfaz Elchibey, the network said.

### Minister Orders Disarming of Political Militias

*LD3107123892 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0700 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[Text] Azerbaijan Defense Minister Ragim Kaziyev has ordered that all military formations of the Popular Front, other parties, and political movements in the republic should be disarmed. These formations do, in effect, ignore the Azerbaijani Defense Ministry and obey only their own commanders and political commissars.

However, when these detachments are being disarmed, there is a danger of numerous excesses, the ONI agency points out. Apart from that, the disarming of military formations may, depending on their political orientation, deepen the political crisis that is being experienced by Azerbaijani society.

### Agreement Reached With Russia on Border Guard

*NC2907184692 Baku ASSA-IRADA in English 1643 GMT 29 Jul 92*

[Text] Baku 29.07.92 (ASSA-IRADA)—Azerbaijan and Russia agreed on joint guarding of Azeri southern borders—with Iran and Turkey for a 2-year term. In future, as far as Azerbaijan will have its own border personnel trained in special schools in Russia and on border while joint guarding Azerbaijan will enjoy absolute power on the border. [sentence as received]

### Defense Ministry Updates 28-29 Jul Clashes

*NC2907200492 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 29 Jul 92*

[Text] The Analytical Information Center of the Azerbaijan Ministry of Defense has announced the following:

The enemy is intensifying its attacks in Agdere Rayon after receiving reinforcements and military equipment through the Lachin corridor. Violent clashes have taken place along the entire battlefront in Agdere Rayon during the past few days. Regardless of [words indistinct], the enemy units have temporarily occupied Kasapet, Demirly, (Medshen), Magavuz, Mokhratag, and Ashagy Oratag. The enemy is trying to mass its forces to attack the Agdere Rayon center. The Azerbaijan Armed Forces are in control of 16 residential areas in Agdere Rayon, including the rayon center.

Agdam, Chukhur Mekhle, and Khydyrly were fired on from the direction of Askeran and Khanabad from 1700 to 1900 on 28 July. Gyulably was fired on from Yenikend and Tekirkend. Papravend was fired on from Mokhratag in Agdere Rayon. The fire was returned and an artillery gun and a tank were destroyed.

Last night the Armenians fired on Fizuliy, Karadagly, and [placename indistinct] with Grad rocket launchers, artillery guns, and tanks. A woman was killed and four men were wounded. Sur and Dashbashi in Dzhebrailskiy Rayon were fired on from the former Gadrutskiy Rayon. No one was killed in the attacks.

Skykhly in Kazakhskiy Rayon and Alibeyli and Agdam in Tauzskiy Rayon were fired on from Armenia last night. The Azerbaijan Armed Forces in Kazakhskiy Rayon returned the fire and destroyed a PDM [expansion unknown] and 12 enemy brigands.

Sadarak in the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic was fired on with various types of arms the previous night. Damage was caused in the town and clashes are continuing. Badabad in Shakhbuzskiy Rayon and [placename indistinct] in Sharurskiy Rayon also were fired on, with seven people wounded in the attacks. The Azerbaijan Armed Forces silenced the enemy firing positions.

The situation in Kelbadzharskiy, Kedabekskiy, Kubatlinskiy, and Zangelanskiy Rayons was relatively peaceful last night.

### Elchibey Creates Single Command for Karabakh

*OW2807114892 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1020 GMT 28 Jul 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] To speed up setting up Azerbaijan's armed forces President Abulfaz Elchibey has issued a decree forming a working group at the Defense Ministry and other departments.

The same decree creates a single command for units fighting in Nagorno-Karabakh to plan and carry out all operations in the conflict zone and the adjacent Kazakh and Zanghelan districts.

To maintain discipline and order military tribunals are being introduced in the combat zone. Arms will now be issued only by a special commission including military experts. A strict ban has been laid on handing out weapons to persons outside the republic's regular forces.

### Swiss To Finance Energy Projects With Turkey

*NC2807153592 Baku ASSA-IRADA in English 1150 GMT 28 Jul 92*

[Text] Baku, 28.07.92 (ASSA-IRADA)—For the first time Swiss Bank will give 2 million US dollar credit to Azerbaijan.

The credit will be meant for 2 energy projects agreed with Turkey first is construction of the Nakhichevan gas turbine electric power station of 600,000 kilowatt and the second is a high-voltage line for electricity supply of Nakhichevan from Turkey. The construction of the projects has already begun and credit to be rendered to Azerbaijan later this year is sure to speed up the work. Turkey has agreed to be a guarantee, a ASSA-IRADA was told by director general of "Azergnergo" industrial merger Muslim Imanov.

### Talysh People's Party Founded 25 Jul

*NC2707115392 Baku ASSA-IRADA in English 1213 GMT 25 Jul 92*

[Text] Baku 25.07.92 (ASSA-IRADA)—One of the biggest ethnic groups in Azerbaijan—Talysh—have formed their party—Azerbaijan's Talysh People's Party. As one of the party leaders Hilal Mamedov said today at the party constituent assembly, the party numbering more than 1.5 thousand people, will pursue the principles of national equality and state system of Azerbaijan. The party will protect the rights of the Talysh and all the ethnic minorities living in Azerbaijan.

## Georgia

### Republic Admitted to United Nations

*LD3107153192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1505 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Menkes]

[Text] United Nations July 31 TASS— Georgia became a member of the United Nations on Friday [31 July]. The decision was adopted by unanimous approval at the 6th session of the General Assembly which resumed its work here.

### Bendery Mayor Asks Military To Restore Order

*LD3107050192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0005 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[By freelance correspondent Anatoliy Kholodyuk for ITAR-TASS]

[Text] Tiraspol, 31 July (ITAR-TASS)—Four defenders of the Dniester region were wounded by mortar fire in Bendery during the night, despite the introduction of peacekeeping forces. Automatic gunfire was heard twice yesterday, this ITAR-TASS correspondent was told at Republican Guard headquarters in Tiraspol. There were exchanges of fire from the directions of Dubossary and Koshnenskiy. Meanwhile, increasing lawlessness and looting have forced the mayor of Bendery, Vyacheslav Kogut, to ask the Dniester region military commandant's office to restore order and discipline in the city. Dniester commandant Mikhail Bergman has announced that preventive measures will be adopted within the next few days.

### Turkish Prime Minister Visits, Signs Accords

*TA3007190392 Ankara TRT Television Network in Turkish 1700 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel has declared that Turkey is ready to contribute to developments in the Caucasus within the framework of the principle of respect for the sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of all the countries in the region. He said: We are ready to embrace every country that reciprocates to this approach on the basis of equality. Six agreements comprising cooperation in various fields between Turkey and Georgia were signed during Demirel's one-day visit to Georgia. [passage omitted]

The agreements, which are aimed at enhancing bilateral relations and cooperation, come under the following main headings: Friendship, cooperation, and good-neighborliness; the mutual encouragement and protection of investments; economic and commercial cooperation; culture, education, and sports; cooperation in ground, sea, and air transportation; and cooperation in transportation and communications.

After the signing ceremony, Demirel addressed the members of the Georgian State Council, the highest administrative body in the country. In his speech, Demirel said that the development of cooperation between Turkey and Georgia will contribute to peace and prosperity in the Caucasus region. Pointing out that the significant developments currently experienced in the world eliminate the elements that differentiate between people, communities, and nations, the prime minister remarked that an era has begun in which everyone is embracing one another in an atmosphere of freedom, democracy, and free market economy.

Commenting on certain difficulties to be encountered in the consolidation of democracy, Demirel announced: Turkey supports friendly Georgia's struggle for democracy. We are ready to offer our experience to our Georgian friends according to our capabilities.

Explaining that the Black Sea Economic Cooperation could act as a vehicle in attaining this goal, Demirel continued:

[Begin recording] Turkey wants to contribute especially to developments in our region within the framework of the principle of equality and respect for all countries' sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity. We are ready to embrace every country that reciprocates this attitude on the basis of equality. We also attach importance to the resolution of discords between countries through negotiations. Historical experience has shown that gains obtained through the use of force cannot be lasting.

We sincerely hope that the Nagorno-Karabakh problem will be resolved through negotiations and that this conflict, which disrupts the relations among the Caucasus countries, will be eliminated as soon as possible. [end recording]

Georgian State Council Chairman Eduard Shevardnadze hosted a luncheon in Demirel's honor. In a toast at the luncheon, Demirel noted that there are many Turkish citizens of Georgian origin in Turkey, a situation that will contribute to the development of bilateral relations. Explaining that the Black Sea Economic Cooperation will also assist in the development of relations, the prime minister said that pollution in the Black Sea could be prevented and the environment protected within the same framework.

Referring to the Karabakh issue, Demirel declared: Turkey sincerely hopes that this disagreement will be solved peacefully as soon as possible based on respect for Azerbaijan's territorial integrity. The atmosphere necessary for the resolution of the disagreement will prevail if Armenia accepts some of the fundamental facts surrounding this problem and effectively supports and contributes to a peaceful solution.

In turn, Shevardnadze remarked that Turkey has helped Georgia extensively. Of the statesmen who visited Georgia so far, none of them said that we are their friend, Shevardnadze said, adding that Demirel was the first to utter this. Shevardnadze stated that Turkey is also Georgia's real friend.

Meanwhile, on the occasion of Demirel's visit, Turkey sent 15 tonnes of food and medicine to Georgia. The prime minister is expected to return to Turkey tonight. He is being accompanied by State Minister Cavit Caglar and Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin.

### Ukrainian Prime Minister Arrives 29 Jul

*OW2907211692 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1928 GMT 29 Jul 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Ukrainian Prime Minister Vitold Fokin arrived in Tbilisi Wednesday [29 July] for the signing of a trade and economic agreement between Ukraine and Georgia. He is conducting negotiations with Chairman of the State Council of Georgia Eduard Shevardnadze and government leader Tengiz Sigua.

### New Inspectorate Replaces Censorship Service

*AU2807103592 Tbilisi SAKARTVELOS RESPUBLIKA in Georgian 21 Jul 92 p 2*

[Unattributed report under rubric "News From the Government House": "For the Protection of Secrets"]

[Text] **The Georgian Government has adopted a resolution on the creation of a state inspectorate for the protection of secrets in the mass media of the Republic of Georgia.**

In accordance with the Republic of Georgia Law "On the Press and Other Mass Media," the organ of censorship—Glavlit—has been abolished and a state inspectorate for the protection of secrets in the mass media attached to

the Georgian Government (the Georgian State Inspectorate for the Protection of Secrets) has been created on its basis.

Giorgi Bagrati dze [son of Bagrati] Nachqebia, former deputy chief of Glavlit, has been appointed chief of the State Inspectorate for the Protection of Secrets in the Mass Media attached to the Georgian Government. The inspectorate has been instructed on the recommendation of interested ministries, departments, and firms to draw up and submit within two months an official list of state secrets for examination by the Government.

## Commission Registers Three Electoral Blocs

*AU2307130692 Tbilisi SAKARTVELOS RESPUBLIKA in Georgian 15 Jul 92 p 1*

["From the Republic of Georgia Central Electoral Commission"]

[Text] In accordance with the electoral rules that provide for the amalgamation of registered parties into blocs, Georgia's Central Electoral Commission, at its session on 14 July, registered the following electoral blocs:

1. "Mshvidoba" [Peace] (bloc formed by the amalgamation of the Democratic Union of Georgia and the Party of Justice of Georgia);

2. "The Party of National Unity of Georgia and the Union of Mountain-Dwellers" (bloc formed by the amalgamation of the Party of National Unity and Social Equality of Georgia and the Political Union of Mountain-Dwellers);

3. "Tavisupleba" [Freedom] (bloc formed by the amalgamation of the Liberal-Democratic National Party and the Christian-Democratic Union of Georgia).

## Estonia

### Apology Made for Attack on Installation Attack

*PM3107114392 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Jul 92 p 3*

[Captain Second Rank Valeriy Gromak report under "Direct Line" rubric: "Estonian Government Acknowledges Its Self-Defense Forces' Actions in Seizing Military Installation To Be Mistaken"]

[Text] Tallinn—No one has any doubt that the incident in Tallinn against the Baltic Fleet's seamen and military construction personnel was provoked by the Estonian side. MOLODEZH ESTONII confirmed this in its evening edition by publishing a lengthy article headlined "Unofficial Military Activity in Keeping With Young Fighter's Course."

The newspaper reports that E. Liimets, Estonian deputy foreign minister, telephoned O. Popovich, Russia's interim charge d'affaires in Estonia, at Prime Minister Tiit Vahi's request and said that the Estonian defense forces' actions in seizing the military installations have been deemed to be mistaken and that the Estonian Government expresses its regret in this connection.

Admittedly, the statement by a second statesman, Udo Helme, assistant chief of the State Chancellery for Military Questions, is incomprehensible. He said yesterday: "I personally regard this incident as an instance of unfriendly actions toward the Estonian Republic. The Russian Government is conducting a discriminatory policy against us."

Estonia has set up a government commission to find out everything that lies behind the incident. At the government's behest Elmar Reyn [name as published], deputy chief of the General Staff and chief of rear services, under whose leadership the operation to seize the fleet's construction work directorate was carried out, has been temporarily removed from his duties.

As for the health of Captain First Rank V. Gay, he has already returned to work.

### Estonians To Guard Western, Northern Borders

*LD3007185592 Tallinn Radio Estonia in English 1520 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Text] The western and northern borders of the republic of Estonia will be guarded by the Estonian border guards only beginning from 1 August. This confirmation was made by the director-general of the Border Guard Department Andrus Oovel. The Russian border guards will finish their activities on these borders.

As already announced a respective agreement was reached during the Estonian-Russian negotiations but the agreement remained unsigned because the Russian side expressed the will for additional consultation with Moscow.

According to Mr Oovel the Russian border guards concluded their actual activities on western and northern borders six months ago, so the agreement is only a confirmation of the real situation.

### Russian Commander Calls For Military Agreement

*LD3007174992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1643 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Text] Tallinn July 30 TASS—Estonian parliamentary speaker Arnold Ruutel met with Leonid Mayorov, newly appointed commander of the North Western Group of Russian troops, on Thursday [30 July] to discuss the withdrawal of Russian troops from Estonia. They also focused on the Russian annexation of Estonia in 1940 and the recent armed conflict between Russian and Estonian Navy units. [Tallinn Radio in Estonian at 1200 GMT on 30 July in a similar report adds: "They also touched upon...the activity of departing soldiers in the military townlets about to be vacated, incidents of recent days in Tallinn and Sauga, and other issues of mutual interest."]

Future incidents between the Russian Army and the Estonian defence forces could be avoided if the two states sign an agreement, Mayorov said. He stressed the agreement should determine the status of Russian troops in Estonia. Meanwhile, there has been little progress on this issue since both sides have so far been unwilling to make concessions.

Mayorov said a Russian guard was attacked in Tallinn on Thursday but was not wounded.

### Sauga Airfield Conflict Resolved

*OW3007154992 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1332 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Captain Johannes Kert, commander of the Kuperianov Battalion of Estonia's defence forces, has told BF [BALTFAX] that the conflict at the Sauga Airfield near Parnu that occurred Wednesday [29 July] evening is resolved. "A constructive atmosphere was restored", and this morning the process of transferring the airfield to Estonia continued.

On Wednesday a conflict took place at the airfield. As a result, on instructions from General Abdurahmanov, commander of the local air defence division, Russian servicemen stopped the procedure of transferring airfield facilities to the Estonians, and even reestablished control over facilities transferred earlier. As Captain Kert explained, the conflict flared up because his subordinates had highjacked two vehicles from a facility still guarded by Russian soldiers. Captain Kert qualified such behavior as "irresponsible" and said that the perpetrators were punished. According to him, the incident was a side-effect in the endeavours to build Estonia's own armed forces.

The airfield is to be transferred to Estonia completely by July 31.

### ITAR-TASS Accussed of Incorrect Reporting

*LD3007200692 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1400 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Excerpts] ITAR-TASS is spreading incorrect information again. Urmas Loit has been investigating:

[Loit] ITAR-TASS reports attacks on two men on duty at Russian naval bases, one the night before last and one last night. [passage omitted] The information of the Moscow news agency is incorrect. At 0436 the night before last, the police received news from a naval unit near Saku about the intrusion of three unknown persons. They had intruded as far as the unit's storage area. The duty soldier who had gone to investigate was found lying unconscious some time later. The criminals were said to have fled in a truck.

The reports by the agency and the statement of the military presented to the police contain dicrepancies. There were three men, not six; the vehicle was a truck, not a car. There is a dicrepancy about the sailor's name, too: ITAR-TASS reports it as Kargiyev, while in the police records he is Kaziyev. The military called for an ambulance from the gate of Saku brewery for some reason. The ambulance took the unconscious soldier to Tallinn's first aid hospital, where he was diagnosed as having overdosed on a narcotic substance. The sailor was next taken to a naval hospital. It is remarkable that the unit's commander refused to accompany the sailor. It has become known to Estonian Radio from trustworthy sources that at first, the military did not want to involve the police in the matter at all.

Let us also add that neither the police nor the home defense know anything about an alleged protest presented by Rear Admiral Gavrilov. [passage omitted] The story reminds me very much of recent noise about a broken window at the Russian Embassy. Russia was accusing Estonians of provocations until a Russian was caught breaking windows.

### Resolution Noted on Russian Gear Withdrawal

*OW3107063092 Moscow BALTFAX in English 0517 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Presidium of Estonia's Parliament today adopted a resolution suggesting that the government should ask the Parliament for permission to allow the Russian servicemen to withdraw the military equipment and arms useless for Estonia.

The Presidium members believe this would prevent splits over the army property between Russia and Estonia.

Estonia's Parliament adopted a decision which transferred the former Soviet armed forces' military material, equipment and installations within Estonian borders under Estonia's jurisdiction on January 23d.

### Servicemen Confiscate Armored Vehicles

*OW3107064292 Moscow BALTFAX in English 0517 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Estonian Defence Forces Headquarters Deputy Chief, Colonel Raul Luks told a BF [BALTFAX] correspondent that Estonian servicemen had confiscated 21 armoured troop-carriers (BTR-80) at a parking place in the suburbs of Tallinn.

Investigators have found out that the vehicles belong to the Estonian "EJR" stock-held company which had bought them in Arzamas and was transporting to Estonia [passage as received] with an aim to sell the carriers to the West. In the documents the combat vehicles figured as ordinary trucks. The authorities decided to confiscate the armoured troop-carriers as a contraband. The stock-held company is free to appeal against the decision in a 10-day term.

Colonel Luks said that the combat vehicles were absolutely new, with no arms or radio installations. The price of each armoured troop-carrier is $20 thousand.

Colonel Luks also said that the police had found 28 more ownerless combat vehicles at a poultry farm near Tallinn, including 15 armoured cars, 8 small armoured cars and 5 armoured troop-carriers. In Colonel Luks' opinion, these vehicles are quite old, and their owner is being determined.

### Vahi Returns From St. Petersburg Talks

*LD3107085692 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1700 29 Jul 92*

[Excerpts] Ain Saarna is back from the airport. We will now talk about Prime Minister Vahi's visit to St. Petersburg.

[Begin recording] [Vahi] Today in St. Petersburg our delegation met Sobchak; Belyayev, chairman of the St. Petersburg city council and the leaders of Leningrad oblast led by [word indistinct]. We talked about practical problems, with the economic problem coming first. [passage omitted] I was very pleased that Anatoliy Aleksandrovich Sobchak supported the idea of continuing this kind of economic integration. We decided to set up cooperation commissions. The first should look seriously at the issue of enabling work to continue at enterprises, to keep it that way, and to preserve integration. It should also look at banking and the settlement of accounts. Another commission could deal with the issues of transportation, communications and perhaps joint work. [passage omitted]

The issue of northeast Estonia was on the agenda. I am very pleased that the authorities of both St. Petersburg and Leningrad Oblast declared very unambiguously that under no circumstances, will they support the kind of disturbances and opposition that happened in Moldova. These must be avoided in any way possible. They understood our demographic situation. They are ready to help the draft specific resettlement programs. There were specific promises of land allocation in Leningrad Oblast as well as in St. Petersburg, and even financial support.

[Saarna] However, Mr. Vahi, as far as we know the meeting took place at Mr. Sobchak's initiative. So can we conclude that there can be no talk of economic sanctions or an economic blockade on the part of Russia?

[Vahi] We spoke specifically with the authorities of St. Petersburg and Leningrad Oblast. They would like to continue economic cooperation in every way. Tomorrow Mr. Sobchak will be in Moscow and he promised to talk about those proposals with Mr. Yeltsin and the Russian government and to seek support. [passage omitted] [end recording]

### Noncitizens Representative Assembly Talks Noted

*LD3107090692 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1700 GMT 29 Jul 92*

[Excerpts] Members of the Supreme Council and representatives of the Russian Democratic Movement held a news conference today in Tallinn on an idea developed during a roundtable at Narva-Joesuu last weekend on a noncitizens representative assembly. Urmas Loit continues:

[Loit] The news conference emphasized once again that the roundtable conference at Narva-Joesuu found it abnormal that 42 percent of the Estonian population find themselves separated from political life because they do not have Estonian citizenship. [passage omitted] The participants in the roundtable do not believe it would be right to apply for Russian citizenship en masse, evidently understanding that in that case the Estonian state would have no obligations to citizens of a foreign state when it comes to the payment of pensions, for example.

The news conference had evidently been called to assure journalists—from Estonian-language publications in particular—that the noncitizens representative assembly is not a body aspiring to become the opposition. Instead, it would like to cooperate with the parliament, the citizens representative assembly, and support the Estonian state. Its activity will be strictly in accordance with Estonia's fundamental law.

The roundtable representatives could not say exactly which article of the fundamental law they would rely on. They did refer to a UN declaration which allows stateless persons to set up their own organizations in the country of residence and a provision in the Estonian fundamental law pledging to recognize and observe all international agreements.

The representatives of the Russian Democratic Movement would not say how the would-be representative assembly would work because the essence of the representative assembly will be determined by a provisional commission which still does not exist. For this reason nobody knows precisely how the creators of the noncitizens representative assembly see their cooperative relationship with the parliament. The assembly will apparently be something like the Peoples Forum or the Estonian Congress in terms of structure.

It has not as yet been decided how the assembly will be elected. [passage omitted] At the moment they are organizing a so-called reach out to the people—evidently support groups will be set up—so the idea can be introduced on a widespread basis. They hope to use the trade union system. Let me say at this point that the intermovement ideas were recreated in northeast Estonia, namely on the basis of the trade unions. However, [words indistinct] now the aim is to exclude extreme trade union actions.

One can assume that the idea of forming a noncitizens representative assembly is a kind of pressure on the government to speed up the resolution of the ethnic issue.

### Government To Normalize Banking, Finances

*LD2407153592 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1700 GMT 23 Jul 92*

[Excerpts] The Estonian Government adopted a series of measures at a session this evening to normalize the financial and economic situation in Estonia, the BALTIC NEWS SERVICE was told by government press spokesman Neeme Brus.

The balancing of the Estonian state budget for the second half of 1992 was discussed. Very radical measures have been planned. According to Economics Minister Olari Taal, Estonian enterprises have over $65 million in their accounts, despite the Estonian currency law. The government made it compulsory for state-owned enterprises to convert their foreign currency into Estonian kroons. [passage omitted]

The government acknowledged that currency circulation problems in Estonia are due to the debts enterprises owe each other. It found that the banking system works normally.

## Latvia

### Godmanis, Russian Commander Meet on Withdrawal

*OW3107065992 Moscow BALTFAX in English 0517 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Commander of the Russian Forces North Western Group, Colonel-General Leonid Mayorov met Latvia's Prime Minister Ivars Godmanis in Riga yesterday. The officer said he clearly realized his main task as withdrawing the Russian armed forces from Estonia in a civilized way.

Leonid Mayorov was appointed North Western Group Commander by a presidential decree on July 16th.

Latvia's government spokesman, Mintauts Ducmanis said that Ivars Godmanis insisted on immediate withdrawal of the Russian forces from Riga during his meeting with the new commander.

At this meeting Leonid Mayorov proposed selling or leasing of some installations built by the Russian army. However, Ivars Godmanis answered that they would have to discuss every installation individually, for Latvia did not want various commercial companies acting under cover of army. The two officials reached an agreement to maintain direct telephone connection in case of need.

Leonid Mayorov also had a meeting with Arnold Ruutel, Speaker of Estonia's Parliament, today in Tallinn.

A meeting between Leonid Mayorov and the Speaker of Lithuania's Parliament Vitautas Landsbergis is scheduled for July 31st.

### New Measures Adopted To Comply With IMF

*LD3007220192 Riga Radio Riga International in English 2030 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Text] The Latvian Government has adopted a resolution setting up the maximum rates for increased wages in state enterprises as well as freezing the minimum wages until 1 October. It was done to comply with the requirements of the International Monetary Fund. The government has also provided for new tariffs of export and import duty, granting the home industry more favorable status, and encouraging import of goods and resources. Now Latvia has got all the necessary preconditions required to receive the IMF credits. Mr. Osis [first deputy finance minister] told a press conference that almost all customs restrictions on exported goods have been lifted with the exception of metals, paper, leather, and various other goods. Tariffs on import duties will constitute approximately 15 percent. No import duties are to be paid for urgently needed products, such as energy resources, food products, grain, (?powder), and medicine. The new tariffs will be put into effect as of 1 September for trade with ruble zone states, and of 1 October to trade with other countries. Individual persons will be free to import goods worth 15 minimum monthly wages [as heard].

### 'Radical Opinions' Banned Near Government Sites

*LD3107010392 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1730 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Text] Those expressing communist and other radical opinions will, in the future, be forbidden to express their attitude near the entrances to government and parliament buildings. This was decided by the Latvian Government at its 29 July sitting. The decision supports a resolution that was adopted calling for an improving public order in areas within direct proximity of state institutions. The decision forbids local self-governments from authorizing meetings and pickets whose proceedings will be within 100 meters of the Supreme Council, Council of Ministers, or Supreme Court. Mintauts Ducmanis, government press secretary, said the decision was similar to a resolution which has already been in effect for years in nearly every state in the world.

## Lithuania

### Russian Oil Supplies To Be Halted

*LD3007224192 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2000 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] According to a BALTFAX report, Vytautas Landsbergis, the head of the Lithuanian parliament, stated today that Russia is ceasing its deliveries of oil to the republic. According to him, the quota allocated for Lithuania has been used up, and they were unable to reach an agreement on increasing the quota.

### Agriculture Minister on Crop Expectations

*OW3007154792 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1332 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Lithuania's Agriculture Ministry expects that this year's grain crop in the republic will make up only one half of last year's harvest.

Stanislovas Politikaitis, chief of the ministry's plant-growing department, has said that the sugar beet crop is expected to make up 60% of what it was last year, and potato crop less than 50%. The quantity of fodder for the winter will make up 50% of last year's. These are only estimates, said S. Politikaitis. The drought continues, and the situation might grow worse yet.

In connection with these difficulties on July 13 Lithuania's government indexed the purchasing prices of grain by 120%. At the moment wheat is purchased at 12,276-14,388 rubles a ton depending on its quality, rye at 12,936 rubles, oats at 11,352-13,068 rubles, barley at 12,144-13,596 rubles.

The harvesting of grain crop in Lithuania began a week ago. So far grain has been purchased without particular problems.

### Further on Russian Arms Sales to Lithuania

*OW2907155292 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1354 GMT 29 Jul 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Russian Government's order on arms sales to Lithuania (published by the Moscow-based newspaper, DEN, on Monday [27 July]) is authentic, although Lithuania has not accepted it yet, the press attache of the Lithuanian parliament, Audrius Azubalis, told a news conference in Vilnius on Monday.

The Russian Government instruction of July 9 provides for more than a $52 mln [million] sale of firearms to Lithuania.

Azubalis said that agreement on the arms deal was reached during a meeting between Landsbergis and Yeltsin in January describing the published document as Russia's offer to sell a large amount of weapons and at a high price. However, he said, Lithuania reserved the right to accept or turn down the offer, or to hold further negotiations, and so on.

The press attache also mentioned the hitherto unknown "long-time conversation" between Landsbergis and president Lech Walesa of Poland who dropped a hint that Poland could sell tanks and armoured vehicles of its own manufacture to Lithuania.

Each country is keen to sell weapons in large amounts and at high cost, Azubalis concluded.

### Military Escort Order for Convoys Cancelled

*OW2907155492 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1354 GMT 29 Jul 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Lithuanian Defence Ministry official Jonas Pauzuolis and deputy commander of the North-Western Group of Troops, General-Lieutenant Fedor Melnichuk, reached agreement on the withdrawal of military escort for army convoys from July 29. This cancels the order for escorts by the commander of an army garrison in Vilnius, Colonel Valeriy Frolov, on July 15, public relations officers of the Lithuanian defence department told BF [BALTFAX] news agency.

### Abisala Says State Policies To Remain Same

*LD2907225992 Vilnius Radio Vilnius International Service in Lithuanian 0100 GMT 29 Jul 92*

[Text] Although the prime minister of Lithuania and the Cabinet of Ministers are changing, the Lithuanian state policy remains the same, said Aleksandras Abisala, Lithuanian prime minister, today at a meeting with leaders of foreign diplomatic missions in Lithuania. According to Aleksandras Abisala, the Lithuanian Government will pursue the policy of reforms, perhaps only changing the [passage indistinct].

The solution of the problems in power engineering, putting the taxation system in order and perhaps lowering the taxation to some extent, the introduction of the national currency, the agricultural reform, and making the Lithuanian foreign policy more active, were the issues that were singled out by the Lithuanian prime minister as the most important objectives of the new cabinet. These problems cannot be left over for the next government, said Aleksandras Abisala at the meeting with the leaders of the diplomatic missions of foreign countries. Tomorrow, the diplomats accredited in Lithuania will visit the Aukstaitija area where they can acquaint themselves at first hand with the damage caused to Lithuanian agriculture by the recent drought. [passage indistinct]

### Parliamentary Majority To Support Cabinet

*OW2907221992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1903 GMT 29 Jul 92*

[Report by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin from "Presidential Bulletin"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] In an interview with the RESPUBLIKA newspaper, Jonas Liaucius, an independent member of parliament, said the new government of Aleksandras Abisala could expect support from the new parliamentary majority formed as a result of the Abisala government's coming to power from Sajudis members and liberals.

In Liaucius's opinion, the new dominant bloc began to take shape as a result of the policy of the former cabinet of Gediminas Vagnorius, who was patronizing influential liberals in parliament. The results of this policy were quite obvious: the new government's appointment was mainly approved by a coalition of three parliamentary groups, the Sajudis one, the one called For Democratic Lithuania, and the liberals.

In Liaucius's view the appointment of liberal Bronislovas Lubis as vice-premier, is a most significant fact.

IF [INTERFAX] Note: There have been numerous reports in the Lithuanian media to the effect that the composition of the new government was a matter settled before the parliament plenary session of July 21 took place: Landsbergis, Vagnorius, Abisala, Lubis, Ozolas, and Saudargas had had an informal meeting before the session.

### Formation of Cabinet of Ministers Concluded

*LD3007223392 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1800 GMT 30 Jul 92*

[Excerpts] The fifth session of the Lithuanian Supreme Council continued its work today. [passage omitted] Candidacies for the posts of ministers were presented by Prime Minister Aleksandras Abisala. Teodoras Medaiskis, head of a department at the Ministry of Social Security, was proposed for the post of social security minister. Audrius Misevicius, deputy social security minister, was proposed for the post of minister of finance. Deputy Foreign Minister Gediminas Serksnys was proposed by the prime minister for the post of minister without portfolio.

A discussion on the above took place during the afternoon session. The deputies essentially supported the proposed candidates, with only some doubts concerning the need for the post of minister without portfolio being voiced.

Following this, Ministers Teodoras Medaiskis, Audrius Misevicius, and Gediminas Serksnys were sworn in by the prime minister. [passage omitted]

### Parliament Deputy Accused of Working for KGB

*OW2907222992 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1851 GMT 29 Jul 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Lithuanian Supreme Court has started to consider another case of a deputy's collaboration with the KGB. The parliamentary commission investigating the KGB activities in Lithuania sent to the court evidence against Vladimir Beriozovas', one of the leaders of the Lithuanian Democratic Party of Labour (former Lithuanian Communist Party). The evidence shows that in 1948-1949 20-year-old Beriozovas worked as translator at the Kaunas KGB branch. On Tuesday [28 July] the Supreme Court heard two statements by Beriozovas who said that the investigating commission ended preparatory work prematurely, since it had neither summoned him for its meeting nor heard his arguments.

The court postponed hearings until August 19.

Beriozovas is the fourth deputy of the Lithuanian parliament who at the initiative of the investigating commission is accused of deliberate collaboration with the KGB. Earlier, the court annulled the deputy mandate of the Chairman of the Lithuanian Independence Party V. Cepaitis. Deputy Minkevicius gave up his mandate before the hearings started in protest against methods being used by the commission. (During the 2nd World War Minkevicius served in the KGB system). The Supreme Court is also considering deliberate collaboration with the KGB of the former prime minister K. Prunskiene.

### Trade and Economic Treaty Signed With Russia

*OW3107065792 Moscow BALTFAX in English 0517 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] An agreement on trade-economic cooperation on 1992 was signed on Thursday [30 July] in Moscow between the Ministry of Economy of the Lithuanian Republic and the Moscow government. Ernest Bakirov, the first deputy premier, signed the agreement on behalf of the Moscow government, and first deputy of the Minister of Economy Vitautas Navitskas signed the agreement on behalf of the Lithuanian Ministry of Economy.

The agreement envisages establishing the most favored nation's regime in trade in concluding and realizing contracts on deliveries of goods.

This year mutual calculations are expected to be paid off in rubles according to the prices coordinated between the economic subjects. If national currency is introduced a special bilateral agreement is to define the order and conditions for mutual calculations and currency to be used for calculations.

The parties agreed to assist in creation of joint ventures, to participate in development, financing, and implementation of joint programmes and projects. Trade missions are supposed to be opened in Moscow and Vilnius.

### Closing of Medininkai Investigation 'Groundless'

*OW3107063792 Moscow BALTFAX in English 0517 GMT 31 Jul 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Lithuania's General Prosecutor Arturas Paulauskas confirmed that the OMON [Special Purpose Militia Unit] units stationed in Riga and Vilnius were involved in the Medininkai incident that resulted in killing seven Lithuanian customs officers and policemen on July 30th, 1991.

Arturas Paulauskas told the Lithuanian TV yesterday that materials collected on this case allowed him to state that OMON was involved in that crime. At present, these materials contain 12 volumes.

A Parliament press spokesman, Audrius Azubalis, referring to Arturas Paulauskas' statement, called the reports by some Western news media on closing of the investigation of the Medininkai incident groundless. The General Prosecutor said that the investigation had been suspended on March 31st, being completed on Lithuania's territory. (BF's [BALTFAX] note :the statement on closing the investigation was published on Tuesday, July 28th).

Lithuania's Prosecutor Office hopes that after the treaty on mutual legal assistance with Russia is signed this July, the investigation will move from a standstill, for persons suspected of having committed the crime are hiding in Russia, Ukraine and Moldova.